

DEFINITION OF TERMS USED FOR EVALUATION OF PHOTOGRAPHY

COMPOSITION

Perspective

The angle or level from which the photographer takes the photograph

Contrast

The difference in brightness between the lightest and darkest parts of a photographic subject, negative, prints or slide. Contrast is affected by the subject brightness, lighting, film type, degree of development, the grade and surface of the printing paper, and the type of enlarger head used.

Texture

Symmetry

Balance or harmonious arrangement

Framing (cropping)

What was left out or included in the photograph

Viewpoint

Location of the camera relative to the subject.

Use of Foreground

Use of the area in an image closer than the main subject.

Use of Background

Areas shown behind the main subject in a picture.

Use of Scale

The proportions of an image and its parts

Angle of View

The maximum angle of acceptance of a lens which is capable of producing an image of usable quality on the film.

Technique (as related to composition)

Unusual Effects

Obstructions

Objects hiding the subject (or interfering in the photo)

Use of Light

Highlights

The whitest or brightest part of an image; the opposite of shadows.

Shadow

A term that refers to the amount of detail contained in the dark parts of an image.

Shadow Point - The darkest tone printable in an image without being black. All tonal

Values below this threshold will print as black.

Fill Lighting (Use of added light)

Quality of light

TECHNICAL

Exposure

The amount of light that passes through a lens (either a camera or photographic paper) to form an image. In the camera, too much light causes overexposure-this makes negative film look too dark and reversal film look too light. Underexposure (too little light) has the reverse effect. In enlarging, overexposure makes a print from a negative too dark and a print from a slide too light. Underexposure has the reverse effect.

Sharpness

An image degree of clarity in terms of focus and contrast.

Contrast (y)

A scene, negative, or print with very great differences in brightness light and dark areas. Opposite: flat.

Tonal Range The degrees of lightness or darkness in any given areas of a print; also referred to as values. Cold tones (bluish) and warm tones (reddish) refer to the color of the image in both black-and-white and color photographs.