**SOME ideas for sentence starters – someone else’s work**

* In this photograph by … I can see…
* After looking at …….’s work I want to try…
* This photograph shows the use of …
* This photograph taken in 19.. shows the film technique of and I will try to recreate this by…
* I can see the process of …

**SOME ideas for Sentence starters – your work**

* I have taken this photograph to show…
* This photograph is successful because…
* I wanted to show … in this photograph but …
* I will improve this photograph by…
* After looking at …’s photography I have…
* The mood I wanted to elicit in the viewer looking at this photograph is …

**USEFUL PHOTOGRAPHIC VOCABULARY –**

**Wide-angle Lens** – a lens with a focal length of 35mm or less – characterised by some distortion and an increased depth of focus

**Telephoto Lens** – a lens with a focal length of 80mm or more – characterised by foreshortening, a narrow depth of focus and, in long telephoto lenses, giving an impression of looking through a telescope or binoculars.

**Standard Lens** – the focal length for a standard lens is 50mm. This is defined as being close to the human eye’s useful angle of vision.

**A Zoom Lens** – a lens with a variable focal length.

**A Prime Lens** – a lens with ONE focal length.

**Under-exposure** – the image is too dark.

**Over-exposure** – the image is too light.

**Light-meter** – calibrated to give an 18% grey to every framed image.

**Viewpoint** – how the camera has been positioned in relation to the subject.

**Contrast** – refers to the range of tone in an image.

**High contrast** – a limited number of levels of tone with a rapid progression from black to white

**Low contrast** – a high number of tonal levels without reaching black and/or white.

**Composition** – the organisation of the contents of an image.

**Depth of field/focus** – the plane through which the subject matter of the image is sharp (or acceptably sharp). Increased by shutting down the aperture. For example f2.8 will result in a narrower depth of field when compared with f22.

**Post-processing** – the manipulation of a digital photograph in the computer after downloading from the camera.

**Shutter speed** – the amount of time the shutter is open and the digital sensor (or film) is exposed. The longer the exposure the lighter (or over-exposed) the image.

**Aperture** – the opening in the lens which combines with the shutter speed to correctly expose the frame. Similar to the iris in the eye the aperture contacts or dilates. In a camera lens the aperture combines a number of thin metal leaves. NOTE: a wide aperture is a LOW number, i.e. f1.8 whilst a small aperture is a high number, i.e. f22.

**ISO** – the sensitivity of the camera’s sensor to light. The higher the ISO the more sensitive the sensor. For low-light photography you may want a high ISO (2000 +). For bright-light you would want the sensor’s sensitivity lowered (200 or less). In film, the speed of film was measured similarly but film cameras (and film) could not match the performance of digital cameras in bad light conditions.

**The Light Meter** – usually built into the camera. This measures the light values in the camera’s frame and provides information on the correct exposure. The meter can measure light based on an average of the whole frame or a centre-weighted aspect or a spot in the centre of the frame. Different metering methods work best in different scenarios.

**The Rule of Thirds** – a notional organisation of an image into 9 sections (3x3) with key parts of the image falling into either the sections OR an intersection between where the (invisible) lines cross.

**High-Key –** images that are all very light with little or no dark content.

**Low-Key** – images with little or no light content.

**Panning** – using a camera to capture a moving object or person with the background blurred – a slow shutter speed with the camera following the subject.

**Bokeh** – the way in which a lens shows blurred parts of an image.

*USE THIS GUIDE WHEN THINKING ABOUT APPROACHES TO YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY AND ALSO WHEN WRITING ABOUT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY OR WORK BY OTHER PEOPLE.*

**Reading a photographer’s notes or statement**

Use the internet to investigate photographers and look for their ‘statements’ or biographies or ‘About’ pages. Here, you will find more information about –

* HOW photographs have been taken
* WHY Photographs were taken

This information is CRUCIAL to your notes and development of your ideas and showing YOUR understanding of images you are looking at.

* Look for comments about the motivation for the photographs.
* Look for notes about any HISTORICAL or CULTURAL comments and OTHER photographers or artists.
* Look for information about the process of the pictures you are looking at – how the picture was taken/created/manipulated or changed.

**Your Coursework Books**

Take pride in your work, your books and the presentation of your work. Imagine a stranger reading about your work and looking at your work.

* Can they understand your writing?
* Do the photographs look?
* Have you explained everything you want to explain in your writing?
* Does the first page lead to the next and so on?

**GCSE Assessment Criteria**

AO1 - Develop their ideas through investigations and cultural understanding- ***This refers to your progress by investigating technical and creative possibilities influenced by other ideas found in other photographers or artist’s work.***

AO2 - Refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes. ***This is about how you develop your ideas and how those ideas change (VERY IMPORTANT).***

**AO3 -** Record ideas, observations and insights

relevant to their intentions in visual and/or

other forms – ***This is about the quality of your pictures and your notes on your pictures.***

**AO4 -** Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements. ***This is about you present your work and write about the presentation of your work; reflective written piece as a conclusion to the work.***

**Formal Elements of Photography**

* Form
* Pattern (and Repetition)
* Composition
* Tone (and Colour)
* Line
* Viewpoint
* Focus

**A-Level Assessment Criteria**

AO1 - record observations, experiences and ideas in forms that are appropriate to intentions - ***This refers to your ability to develop your work by investigating technical and creative possibilities influenced by ideas gained from looking at other photographers or artist’s work.***

### AO2 - analyse and evaluate images, objects and artefacts showing understanding of context - *This refers to the development of your ideas and your experimentation with media and materials and how well do they evolve (or build on top or as a result of each other).*

### AO3 - develop and explore ideas using media, processes and resources, reviewing, modifying and refining work as it progresses - *This refers to the quality of your images and the selection of subject matter.  Your recording of observations, annotations, thoughts and ideas.*

### AO4 - present a personal response, realising intentions and making informed connections with the work of others - *This refers to how personal your work is, does it reflect your personality and style or your way of approaching your chosen topic. Your personal reaction in response to, or your inspiration from the work of other photographers and Artists, does your final piece appropriately stand as the conclusion of the work collected in your workbook?*

**Useful Websites**

* www.art2day.co.uk
* www.thisiscolossal.com
* www.pinterest.com
* www.gcsephotography.co.uk
* http://mrngcsephotography.weebly.com
* www.panos.co.uk
* www.zenfolio.com