

# Activity Guide

## What Makes a Photograph Great?

Basic elements of strong photographs include:

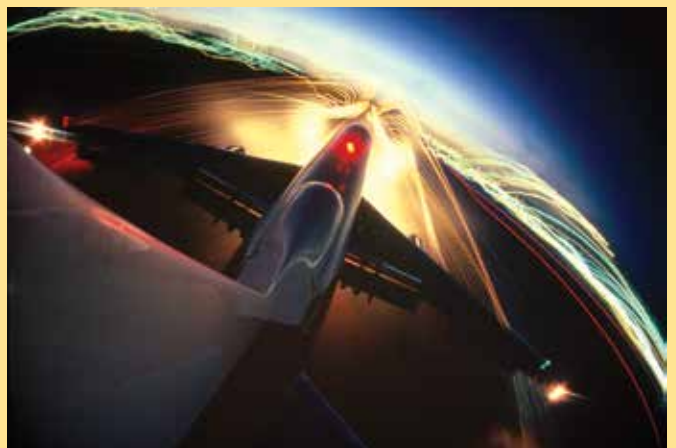
- ☞ **clear focus or point of interest**
- ☞ **organized composition or design**
- ☞ **appropriate exposure or lighting**

These elements refer to a photo's structure, not its emotional content. But, how a photograph makes you feel is among the reasons it's memorable.

Look at the photos here and in the galleries. How does each photo make you feel? What is the story being told?

Use the word bank to help you think of words that express your feelings and emotions.

**Tell or write a story that brings one of these photographs to life.**



## Words to Inspire:

acceptance	contentment	fear	love	protection
awe	delight	hopelessness	order	triumph
calm	empathy	isolation	peace	trust
care	exhilaration	joy	pensiveness	zest

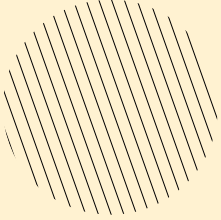
From top: Emory Kristof, *North Atlantic Ocean*, 1991, ©National Geographic; Sam Abell, *Moscow, Russia*, 1983, ©National Geographic; Joanna B. Pinneo, *Sub-Saharan Mali*, 1997, ©National Geographic; Bruce Dale, *Lockheed L-1011, California*, 1977, ©National Geographic

# Whistler's Style

Look at James McNeill Whistler's etchings in the gallery. The artist is known for his hatching and cross-hatching techniques.

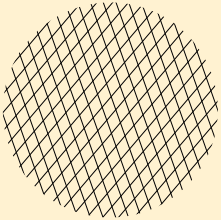
**Hatching** uses non-crossing lines to create values in a drawing. Values are the range of lights and darks. More marks or lines are added for shadows. Fewer marks are made in lighter areas. Changing the number of lines and the amount of space between them creates a range of values.

## Practice Hatching



**Cross-hatching** begins with non-crossing lines and then adds lines that cross over the first ones put down. The more lines that cross over, the darker the values.

## Practice Cross-hatching



James A. McNeill Whistler, *La Marchand de Montarde*, 1858, etching

Combine these techniques to create textures and patterns to make an interesting drawing.