Content & Reference Material

Photography is a form of visual art used for projecting our imagination as well as reality as we see it. Digital photography is the art and science of taking photographs on a digital platform.

The JuniorSkills Digital Photography Competition is intended to identify young visual artists who have the aptitude and interest to learn and apply their creativity and technical skills into this field. Since a long time, photography has been seen as a hobby which could be pursued as a sidekick, but that time is gone. With the technological advancement and flow of information around the global, photography is being seen as a full-time profession.

The pictures you see on the internet, on big hoardings, on company brochures, in art galleries are all taken by some or the other photographer. Photographs are required to pass information, to know what is happening around the world, to see the world which we seldom see. The objective of this competition is to bring out those potential talent and introduce them to the professional and artistic world of photography.
If we break photography into its widest form, it’s both science as well as art. The science of photography is all about the equipment and the technical part while the art of photography is all about how we perceive things and ideas and project it through our cameras. Let’s have an overview of how all of it works.

**Photography as Science —**

The science part of photography includes technique and equipment and one of the most basic things that comes into play within the science part is the *exposure triangle*. Shutter speed, Aperture and ISO make up the three sides of the exposure triangle. They work together to produce a photo that is properly exposed. If one variable changes, at least one of the others must also change to maintain the correct exposure.

Ever thought how could you get these types of images?

*Figure 1. Slow shutter speed (motion blur)*
These images are the result of different shutter speeds.

**Shutter Speed** – It is the length of time the camera shutter is open, exposing the light to the camera sensor.

Ever thought how could you get these types of images?
These picture with background blur or background focus is the result of change in aperture.

**Aperture** – It refers to the circular hole within the lens through which the light travels to the camera.

Thus, by changing the settings of the elements of exposure triangle, we can achieve our desired creative results.

Here is a video link for a brief understanding of the exposure triangle -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uyXiWF3mI2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uyXiWF3mI2s)

**Photography as Art –**

The artistic part of photography includes the photographer’s artistic goals, her vision, inspiration and the use of art-related concepts. There are tons of factors which makes a photography look visually more appealing. From composition to story-telling, everything needs to be kept in mind.
Figure 5. Golden Ratio

Figure 6. Leading Lines

Figure 7. Rule of Thirds
In the preceding images, composition rules such as golden ratio, leading lines, rule of third and frame within frame is used which is making the image visually more appealing. Likewise, there are other techniques too which helps you to click great images.

Refer the video below to have a brief idea of the composition rules –
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZVyNjKSr0M&pbjreload=101

Apart from composition, photography is also about storytelling. In photography, storytelling is usually called a photo essay or photo story and it’s a rather common practice. To put it simply, it’s a way for a photographer to tell a story with a series of photographs or even single photograph sometimes. In case of a series of photographs, images are ordered in a specific way with the aim of affecting the viewer’s emotions and intellect.
This single image for example can be a source of an entire story. It depicts that life can bloom from anywhere. At times we give up on life and don’t have the confidence to rise up again. But we should never give up. If nature can find its way, why can’t humans.

This photograph beautifully depicts the essence of childhood. In a world where we are entirely engaged into our smartphones, we lack the little joys of life. It is significant to realise that it’s the simple and little things which would matter us throughout our lives.
This photography depicts the relationship or a bond of friendship. Apart from humans, we can also have relations with objects, animals, nature and what not.

Thus, photography can be pursued professionally, artistically or both depending upon which genre you decide to move into.

Additional reference links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHvFHRPLvlI (mobile photography tips)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pC1c-jFoUDM (mobile photography mistakes)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0plNvaR0bg (iconic photos)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aM4Jzu6rvZ4 (life in pictures)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZR2zlG8sc38 (composition in photography)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXdAXONo2hM (understanding camera)
https://digital-photography-school.com/ways-to-overcome-creative-blocks/ (removing creative blocks)