

Unit 10: Digital Photography for a Media Production



*Resource Pack for BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 in
Creative Digital Media Production*



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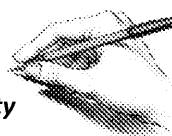
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Teacher's Introduction

This resource has been designed to cover the content in Pearson BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 (First) in Creative Digital Media Production specification for *Unit 10: Digital Photography for a Media Production*. It contains information sheets containing all of the key theory for each Learning Aim, in the same order as the Unit 10 specification. Interspersed throughout the theory are objectives, key terms, questions and tasks.

In addition to the information sheets are the following:

- *Practical Task* – a scenario-based task requiring learners to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding of the unit to research, plan, produce, and review a series of digital photographs.
- *Learner Checklist* – encourages learners to take control of their progress by helping them identify where they can improve. Can be used for both peer and self-assessment.
- *Crossword* – a fun activity to reinforce the unit's key terminology.
- *Worksheets and Templates* – included to help with practical work that learners will complete during the unit.

Suggested answers to each question in the information sheets, as well as the crossword solution, can be found on pages 42-44. *Please note that these are not exhaustive and there may be alternative acceptable answers.*

Important: All tasks in this resource are designed to provide **practice only**, and are **not** designed or intended as a way for learners to provide evidence for the unit.

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Aim A – Understand the production of digital photography

Objectives:

- ✓ To understand the characteristics, features and settings of digital cameras
- ✓ To know the different reasons why digital photos are produced and how they are produced.

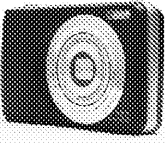

CAMERAS AND CAPTURING IMAGES

Camera modes

There are a range of different cameras available that all aim to take high-quality photos. As these cameras differ in features such as price, quality and construction, the amount of control they allow the user to have over the features and can, therefore, vary. Some cameras have automatic modes.

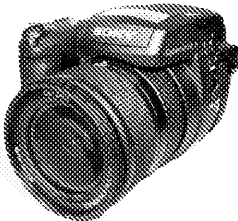
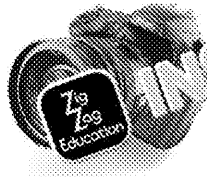
- **Manual mode** refers to a camera setting that allows the user to have full control over all features and settings, which consequently provides the user with more control over the photographs that they compose, e.g. DSLR cameras.
- **Automatic mode** is when the camera automatically sets most or all of the camera's settings, such as exposure and focus. This usually depends upon factors within the scene, such as the amount of light.

Although DSLRs also have the ability to shoot images in automatic mode, automatic shooting is the only mode available in some common devices such as smartphones.

Camera type	Description
Compact 	<p>A compact (or point-and-click) camera is the most common type of camera, allowing the user to take photos in automatic mode according to a range of predetermined and controlled settings.</p> <p>However, the user is unable to change lenses, filters or camera settings, providing them with less control and flexibility.</p>
Advanced compact 	<p>An advanced compact camera is similar to a compact camera but offers a range of additional features. Firstly, they provide more control over exposure, the ISO (International Standards Organisation) speed increases ability to capture photos in low-light conditions.</p> <p>They also feature more advanced zoom features, including both electronic zoom (enlarging a section of the image) and optical zoom (the use of lenses to zoom).</p> <p>A bigger sensor also generally means that images are of a higher quality than standard compact cameras.</p>

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Camera type	Description
Bridge 	<p>Bridge cameras are traditionally considered as compact and DSLR cameras – they feature some of the features of compact cameras while providing additional features of DSLR (single lens reflex) cameras.</p> <p>One distinctive feature is the large optical zoom to capture high-quality images at a distance and they have larger sensors and better fixed lenses than compact cameras. They also have better field of view control and macro performance.</p>
DSLR (digital single lens reflex) 	<p>DSLR cameras provide the user with full manual settings such as exposure and focus. They also have larger sensors and better fixed lenses than compact cameras.</p> <p>They retain the ability to be set to automatic modes and quickly take different types of photos. Disadvantages, however, are that they are expensive and some distortion when recording video, such as rolling shutter.</p>

Questions:

1. What is a bridge camera? (1 mark)
2. State an advantage and disadvantage of compact cameras. (2 marks)
3. What features set DSLR cameras apart from the other cameras listed?

Capturing images

There are a number of features and settings on digital cameras that allow users to control the quality of the images they capture. However, these features and settings can also have an impact on image quality.

- **Viewfinder:** The viewfinder is the name for the opening on a camera through which the user looks through and see the image to be taken, and differs between digital and film cameras.

The viewfinder on a compact camera is electronic, and functions by estimating the light that will reach the camera sensor to form the image seen. Therefore, it could be considered as an accurate representation of the image.

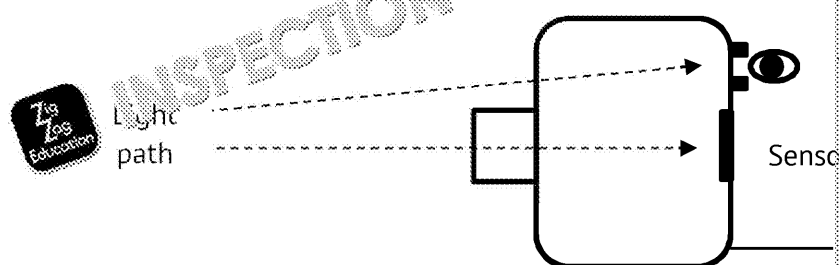
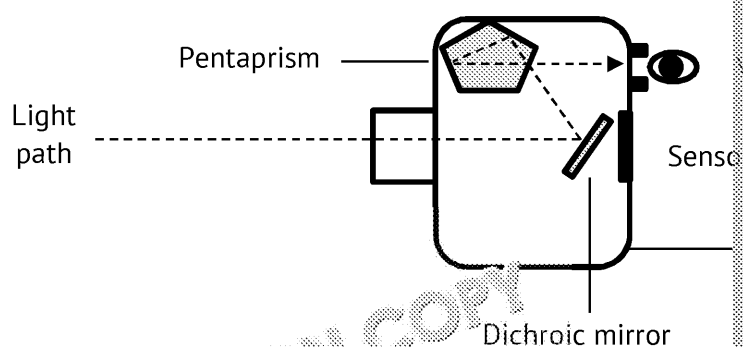


Diagram showing the light path of an electronic viewfinder

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As shown in the diagram below, the viewfinder within a DSLR works through a pentaprism and a dichroic mirror that are used to reflect the image projected into the viewfinder.



The light is reflected upwards by the dichroic mirror and then through the pentaprism to the viewfinder. When the user presses the shutter to take an image, the mirror flips up and the light hits the sensor.

Questions:

4. What is a camera viewfinder? (1 mark)
5. Explain the difference between the viewfinders on a compact and DSLR camera.

Task:

What exactly is a dichroic mirror? Research how a dichroic mirror reflects light and its application for a DSLR camera.

Lens

Within optics, a lens is a device that uses refraction to change the focus of light. It is one of the components of a camera that allows the user to capture, focus and magnify images. There are two types of lenses available for cameras: zoom lenses and prime lenses.

A zoom lens is one that allows the user to change the focal length – and, therefore, the user's perspective and angle of view.

The range of a zoom lens is measured with X and refers to the maximum and minimum focal length; for example, a lens that has a focal length of 35-105mm, would be listed as 3X zoom ($35 \times 3 = 105$).

The obvious advantage of a zoom lens is that it takes up less space and requires fewer lenses. However, there are also some disadvantages. In comparison to prime lenses, zoom lenses often have lower image quality, decreased autofocus performance and smaller apertures.

The degradation of image quality is especially seen in the corners of the frame when using a zoom lens at its maximum focal length.

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Prime lenses, on the other hand, only have one focal length – meaning the view remains fixed.

They do, however, have superior image quality compared to zoom lenses. Other advantages include being lighter, having a wider aperture (which means better low-light conditions) as well as a wider depth of field range.

The main disadvantages of prime lenses are that they are more expensive than zoom lenses.

Questions:

6. What is a zoom lens? (1 mark)
7. Compare the strengths and limitations of prime lenses compared to zoom lenses.



Image sensor

A camera sensor is a device that's used to read the amount of light within a scene – that is then transferred and converted into a digital signal and stored.

The process begins with light photons being captured across a range of pixels.

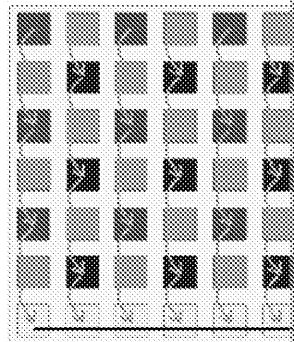
The number of photons is then read and converted into an electrical signal.

In a CCD (charged-coupled device) sensor the charge is transferred in columns and read across the bottom row of the chip, where an analogue to digital converter produces a digital signal.

CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor) sensors have a piece of silicon for each photosite that reads the value and then transports the signal using traditional methods. One of the advantages of this method is that each pixel can be read individually.

There are also a number of additional differences between CCD and CMOS sensors.

- CCD sensors generally produce higher-quality images, have greater dynamic range, and larger pixels, although CMOS sensors are rapidly developing and catching up.
- CMOS sensors are also more susceptible to image noise.
- CMOS sensors consume less power; CCD is traditionally less efficient.
- Some CMOS sensors are susceptible to the rolling shutter effect with varying methods by which light is captured.



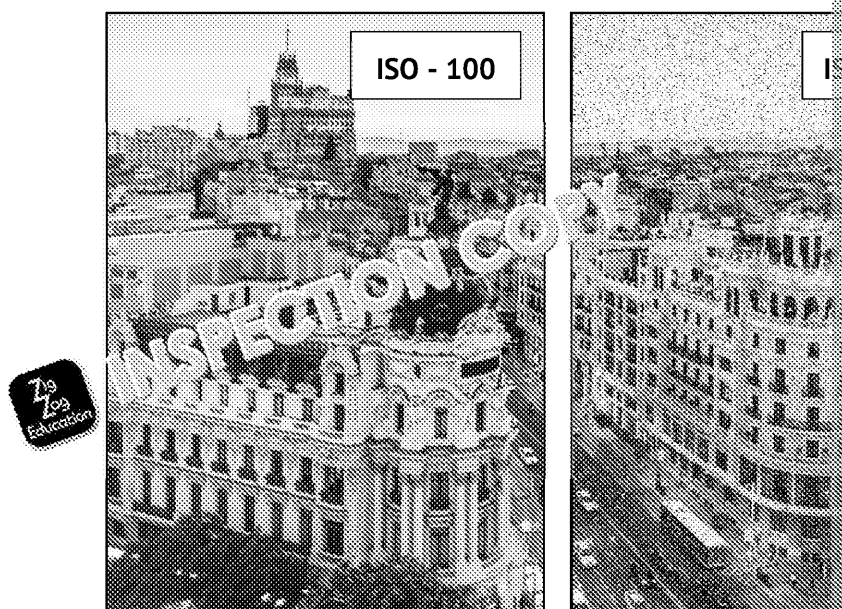
Example showing the method by which sensors transport the electrical signal.

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ISO is a measure of how sensitive the camera sensor is to incoming light. As the sensor is more sensitive to light and, therefore, increases the exposure.

However, increasing the ISO also increases the amount of noise within the image, so it is used as a last resort when other light settings are inadequate.



Comparison showing a similar image taken at low and high ISO.

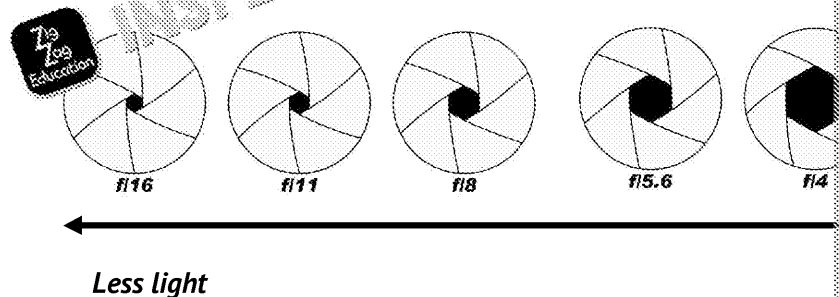
Questions:

8. What is a camera sensor? (1 mark)
9. Explain how data is read from a CCD sensor. (2 marks)
10. 'CCD sensors are better than CMOS sensors'
Do you agree with this statement? Provide arguments to support your answer.

Aperture

The aperture is an iris-like opening located within the camera lens. It opens up to allow light to pass through and into the camera body.

The size of the opening is measured in a unit called 'f-numbers' where the smaller the unit number increases. It is one of the features that allow the user to control the depth of field in an image.



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Shutter

The camera shutter is a barn-door mechanism located within the body of the camera. It is one of the components that controls the amount of light that reaches the camera sensor.

The shutter can open for a predetermined set of time and is measured in seconds. For example a shutter speed of 1/250 means that it's open for one two-hundredth of a second.

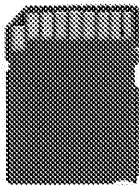
Questions:

11. What does ISO control? (1 mark)
12. Name the three factors that control the camera's exposure. (3 marks)
13. You've taken a photo in low light and it has lots of noise. Suggest what you can do to reduce the noise within the photo. (2 marks)
14. 'CCD sensors are better than CMOS sensors'
Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Provide arguments to support your answer. (4 marks)

Memory

When capturing digital images they need to be saved if they are to be transferred to a computer. Digital cameras don't have internal memory that allows the user to save photos. They use expandable memory solutions such as memory cards.

Internal memory is generally limited to other devices such as mobile phones.

Storage type	Advantages
Internal storage This refers to the memory that is already within the device.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy and simply to use. • No need for additional hardware or cost.
SD card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widely supported across photographic devices, including variants for mobile phones. • Available in a range of different file sizes and speeds for reading and writing data. • Cheap to purchase.

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LIGHTING

Flash

Fill flash is a method used to force the camera to activate the flash in order to provide additional light to a scene, in particular to areas of dark shadows. This technique is useful in situations where the background light is significantly brighter than the subject – leading the subject to appear as a silhouette.

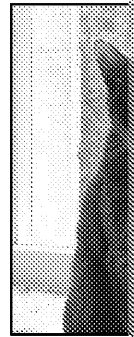
However, it can also be used in other circumstances where the features of the subject are particularly dark. For example, when there is strong overhead lighting.

It's important to note that flash isn't meant to be used as the main source of light. Images can appear flat and overexposed if the flash is too bright for the scene.

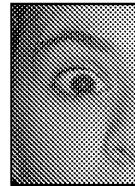
The red-eye effect is an abnormality caused when the light of a camera flash reflects off the retinas of the photographic subject. Due to the speed of the flash the pupils constrict and restrict the amount of light entering the eye.

Most modern cameras with a flash have an anti-red-eye feature. This works by producing small bursts of light before taking the photo, which allows the pupils time to constrict and, therefore, reduces red-eye.

Another method to reduce red-eye is within image-editing software. Using this process the red pixels are replaced by black and grey.



Example of fill flash



Red-eye effect

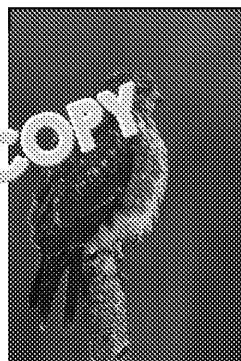
Questions:

15. What is the cause of the red-eye effect? (2 marks)
16. Explain the circumstance in which fill flash is needed and what it aims to achieve.

Exposure

Exposure describes how light or dark an image is and how certain parts of the image are exposed. It is determined by three individual camera settings (shutter speed, aperture and ISO) and external lighting.

The three exposure settings should be used in conjunction with each other to determine the correct exposure for the circumstance, and should be adjusted in retrospect to another to maintain a level of exposure.



Underexposed



Correct exposure

For example, if the shutter speed is increased then the f-number should be adjusted to maintain the same exposure within the image.

A photo can be underexposed or overexposed depending on the settings. Underexposed describes inadequate lighting and overexposed means too much light. Both can create the perception of poor quality.

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White balance and colour temperature

White balance is the process of identifying 'true' white to remove unrealistic colours so that colours (in particular white) look the same in real life as they do when recorded by a camera.

Digital cameras usually feature an automatic white balance calculator that aims to measure the **colour temperature** and set the white balance according to the environmental surroundings. However, it's also possible to set the white balance to various set default values that are defined by the type of light output spectrum, or manually specify the colour temperature value.

Key terms

✓ **Colour temperature** is a measure to describe the colour of the spectrum of light.

Taking photographs under different types of light can produce different colours. A photographer can adjust the white balance.

Lights

As previously mentioned, different types of lighting can have different colour changes to the white balance setting of the camera.

Listed below are a range of lighting types and the type of light that they produce.

Light type	Description
Tungsten 3200 K	Common in house lighting, tungsten lights create a warm, yellowish light. It has been suggested that humans naturally prefer this light at night due to the old pre-electric temperature of candles.
Fluorescent 4000 K	Produces a bright white light that appears to flood the scene.
Natural 2000 K – 10,000 K depending on the time of day and weather conditions.	The colour temperature of natural lighting tends to vary throughout the day. During sunrise/sunset where the sun is lower in the sky, the colour temperature is lower. As the sun is higher in the sky, and the sky is clearer, the colour temperature increases.

Questions:

17. What is white balance? (1 mark)
18. What factor controls the colour temperature of natural lighting? (1 mark)

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SUPPORT

Handheld

Most cameras feature some kind of ergonomic design which makes them easy to hold when taking photos and videos. However, there are still some holding positions that can help to stabilise the camera and reduce the likelihood of camera shake.

Firstly, the camera should always be held with two hands no matter the orientation. The right hand is positioned over the shutter button and the left supporting the lens – with the thumb and index finger gripping the lens. The elbows should also be facing inwards and feet positioned far apart to provide a stable base.

Tripod

A tripod is a free-standing mount that allows the user to adjust the height and angle of the view. As the name suggests, it has three legs in order to provide a stable base for the camera – this is a necessity in some areas of photography such as when taking long-exposure or slow shutter speed shots.

The head of the tripod usually has a degree of movement, allowing the user to change the field of vision. There are many different mounts that allow a camera to be attached to a surface that can be used within a photo shoot:

Mount type	Description
Monopod	A monopod allows the user hold the camera steady in situations where a tripod may not be suitable – it has a foot plate which can aid stabilisation. Another feature is that it's extendable so that the user can increase the height. This feature also allows the user to extend the monopod to reach difficult locations and take self-portraits from a distance.
Flexible mount	This mount allows the user to wrap the legs around unconventional shaped objects such as poles. It can also be free-standing and use a one-height conventional tripod design.
Head-mount	This allows low-weight cameras to be mounted to the head of the user – allowing first-person view shots of the action.
Roll bar	A roll-bar mount is one that allows a camera to be attached to a moving object such as a bicycle frame.
Suction	A high-quality suction mount is used within a number of circumstances where other mounts wouldn't be suitable. One example of its use is on a car door.

Questions:

19. Suggest a possible disadvantage of using a handheld camera. (1 mark)
20. What is the purpose of a tripod? (1 mark)

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FILE STORAGE

File formats

A file format is a method in which image information is stored (or compressed) in a file.

Compression describes the process of gaining an accurate representation of data without degrading the quality of the image to an unacceptable level. The reduction in file size allows more files to be stored and reduces the time required for images to be sent or downloaded over a network connection.

There are two file formats used within digital photography that are used for different reasons.

- **JPEG** – Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) is a file type that has specifically developed for photographic images and uses **lossy** compression. It is commonly used for storing images in digital cameras and displaying images over the Internet due to its low file size and relatively good image quality.
- **RAW** – A RAW file is a **lossless** direct reading of an image from the camera sensor. The main advantage of RAW files is that they contain all of the original image data, while JPEG and other file formats discard some of this colour information, which can lead to visible compression artefacts. RAW files can then be converted into JPEG files if desired.

There are, however, a number of disadvantages associated with RAW files. They are large files, which means that less can be stored on a memory card and they take longer to transfer. They can also take a longer time opening on a computer and may need to be compressed before transferring.

Image quality settings and size

Digital cameras also have a quality setting that when shooting images in, which determines the level of compression used when saving the image.

Higher quality means that there is a lower amount of compression, which results in a larger image with greater colour information.

Photo size is also a factor with image quality, in particular when images are enlarged. Smaller images could lead to pixellation.

While it is possible to enlarge images safely, rescaling beyond a certain point will result in a decrease in quality and the images will show evidence of pixellation – where pixels are visible, particularly when enlarging low-resolution images.

Key terms

- ✓ **Compression** – the process of reducing the size of a file without losing too much of its original quality.
- ✓ **Lossy** – a type of compression which discards some of the original image data to reduce file size, resulting in a loss of image quality.
- ✓ **Lossless** – a type of compression which does not discard any of the original image data, resulting in a file that is the same size as the original.
- ✓ **Pixel** – a small square of colour that makes up a digital image.

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Questions:

21. State one factor that can impact file size. (1 mark)
22. What are the differences between lossy and lossless compression types? (2 marks)
23. State four camera properties that can influence image quality. (4 marks)

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS IN MEDIA PRODUCTS

Digital photographs are used in different media products to provide illustrative accounts of text. They feature in the following media products:

- **E-newspapers:** Within journalism and other information sources, photos support any descriptive text and provide the audience with a visual representation of people. Within tabloid papers photos are especially used for shock value.
- **CD/DVD covers:** Photos are mainly used within audiovisual media products. Firstly, to show the audience who's within the video production or who the artist is and secondly to portray a certain style to the audience and assist audience identification.
- **Books:** All types of images and graphics appear on book covers. However, to show realism on a novel cover. There are also instances where a publisher uses photos of the film characters on the cover to help audience association. Within material such as travel guides and textbooks, photos are generally used to show something that is being described.
- **Instruction/training material:** Instructional material is inherently a visual medium. Photos are primarily used to clearly show the reader how to do a task or how to assemble self-assembly products, what the product will look like once it is complete and how it is applicable in activities which require precision.
- **Advertisements:** The primary use of advertisements is to persuade the audience of a product or service being offered. Therefore, the principal use of images in advertising is to glamorise the product and portray the image of the brand, thereby increasing the attractiveness.
- **Interactive media:** This refers to websites and other media applications that require user interaction. Within this sector photos are used for a wide range of purposes, from purely persuasive purposes.

Visual communication

Visual communication describes how the components of an image are used to convey a message to the audience. This includes text and both symbolic and technical elements of photos such as the underlying messages and the camera lens used.

Shorthand communication refers to universal symbols and symbolic codes used in photography to convey meaning or a message to an audience.

The use of colour is an example of shorthand communication that helps to convey a specific idea to the audience.

Common examples include:

Red	to signify energy, warning and urgency. In the UK red road signs are used to give orders.
Pink	is a traditionally feminine colour, used to symbolise love and affection.
Blue	the colour of the ocean and the sky, is seen as constant in nature, giving a sensation of trust and security. It's commonly used in communication.
Green	as the omnipresent colour in the natural world, often symbolises growth.
Orange	can represent warmth, energy and friendliness.

Task:

Can you identify three examples of universal symbols? These can be signs or gestures such as waving to symbolise goodbye.

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Mise en scène means how a variety of visual attributes are arranged through an image can help to convey meaning to the audience. It's a French word that literally means 'putting on stage' and includes a number of components such as setting and props.

- **Setting:** This is the location where the photo is taken, and can immerse the audience in a mood for the audience and influence how they perceive a character. The set could be in an actual or well-known location to cause a feeling of familiarity, alternatively it could be completely fabricated and unrealistic to create a sense of mystery and mystify the scene.
- **Props:** These are portable objects used within an image and can help to tell a story about the scene, characters or themes. Key props could be central to an image and draw the viewer's eye to the audience; for example, a man with a ring box symbolising a proposal.
- **Costume:** The clothing within a production is not just used to dress the character, the smallest article of clothing can have a meaning. It can convey personality and event to the audience and also the personality of the character.
- **Make-up:** Although often forgotten, make-up can be a significant production element. It can be used to enhance the appearance and personality of the characters to the audience. Think about when the look of a character aims to induce a certain emotion. Think about a traditional photo of Japanese geisha without make-up – what response would it elicit?
- **Facial expression:** This refers to facial expression and posture of the character. The facial expression of a character can be used to convey emotion and is instantly recognisable. This emotion is further emphasised by complementary body language. On the other hand, conflicting body language and facial expression can create a sense of tension and questioning among an audience.

Text can be used to complement other elements of an image through colour and layout. Positioning can also be used to lead the view of the audience towards certain elements and control the reading direction.

One of the main purposes of text is to provide the user with information to help them understand the product or service that's being offered.

Purposes of digital photos

The purposes or reasons for use of digital photographs can generally be sorted into three main categories:

- To enhance written text-based publications and reinforce the message. Photos are specifically useful within a piece of descriptive text where a photo can help the reader to understand.
- To market a product or service where a photo is mainly used to depict the product being advertised.
- Photos are also used on promotional material such as advertising and public relations. They commonly provide the viewer with a clear understanding of what to expect at the event through the use of text and images.
- To generate interest or awareness in a subject, such as within sports and entertainment. An image is used to provoke shock or amazement and the accompanying text can then accompany such strong emotions.
- In media sectors such as news and journalism, photos can be used to tell a story. A video – a series of images will usually show the key stages of an event to the audience to further their realistic understanding.

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Task:

Using the Internet find a photo of your choice.

Now identify its purpose and analyse it according to the mise en scène.

Aim B: Explore techniques of digital photography

Objectives:

- ✓ To know the different types of photography and the differing techniques
- ✓ To be able to store and export digital photographs.

EXPLORING PHOTOGRAPHY

It should be noted that although digital photography camera features and settings are different to those of traditional film based photography, the techniques, photography fundamentals and outcome remain the same.

Location shots

Location photography refers to photography shoots that take place in outside locations. These can require the photographer to undertake various techniques to ensure that the shoot and resultant photographs are suitable for use.

Location photography can be one of the most uncontrollable environments due to the wide range of factors (both human and environmental) that can affect image composition and quality of the photo. One factor that photographers generally abide by when taking outdoor photos is the concept of the 'golden hour' – this is a short window after sunrise and before sunset where there is less contrast and a softer colour palette.

Architectural photography is an example where certain techniques are usually employed by photographers to frame photos to incite amazement and a different perspective. Buildings are usually taken from a low angle looking up, which highlights the height and create the impression of a dominating high-rise building reaching into the sky.

When taking rural shots the landscape is usually the feature that the photographer is looking to show the audience. A low-angle camera with a wide camera lens is another position to capture an expansive view of the scene.

Cityscape shots (landscape shots of a city) are commonly taken from a high vantage point to show the spread of a city over the horizon.

Questions:

24. Provide an example of an uncontrollable factor that could disrupt an outdoor shoot.
(1 mark)

Task:

Using a camera and the equipment available, go around your school campus and take photos using the techniques outlined above.

Do you feel that your photos demonstrate the stated audience reactions?

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Studio

When taking indoor studio photos, factors of the environment such as lighting can be totally controlled and stylised in the view of the photographer – allowing them to be more experimental with the photo composition.

One popular choice when photographing portraits is to have a shallow depth of field. This means that the subject of the photo is within focus but anything in the background is blurred or out of focus (the details of how to achieve this effect are explained later).

Pack shots are another type of image taken within a studio environment. They are usually used for advertising or promotional purposes that aim to gain the viewer's attention and generate interest. These photos are usually simple and taken against a white background. They are used to draw the attention of the viewer towards a certain aspect by making it stand out. White space can also be used to emphasise text and increase readability.

Events photography

Events are fluid and dynamic occasions where the constant moving and interaction of people can make it a daunting place to be tasked with taking photos. Within these situations the photographer only has a limited amount of chances to take photos!

For this reason preparation is key. Firstly, it is beneficial to first scout the locations where the event – for example, a wedding – will take place.

This will allow the photographer to gain a perspective for the scene and take a number of test shots within the area which can save time during the actual event.

An additional point is to ensure that the exposure and focus are correct for the scene. As a basic requirement, it can be harder to maintain in a moving environment, but a camera with a fast shutter speed capable of recording sharp images.

In some situations, particularly with sports photography, it can be necessary to use a tripod and use a lens or camera with a large zoom range due to the varying distances and the subject. The tripod also provides another advantage of helping the photographer to hold the camera easily.

Questions:

25. State one benefit of indoor studio photo shoots. (1 mark)
26. Suggest one factor that makes event photography difficult. (1 mark)

Task:

Investigate the shutter speed and aperture of a camera. Can you create a blurred image? Can you utilise shutter speed to make an image blurred or sharp?

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Night shots

Low-light photography can prove to be impossible on some cameras that don't allow the user control over changing the exposure settings. Night modes on some compact cameras cause the camera to drastically increase the ISO value in a way that introduces substantial noise to the image.

However, with DSLRs the user has the ability to manually adjust the exposure and also record creative photographs using the available light.



An

For example, when taking photos in low light most compact cameras will increase the light levels and then adjust the remaining exposure levels based upon the new light levels.

However, on a DSLR the user could decide on how they want the photo to be exposed and control the exposure.



One such example is light-trail photography where the low light is used to create long-exposure photos where visible streaks of light are seen across a photo. This long-exposure use of a long shutter speed.

Task:

Although light-trail photography is best suited at night, it's still possible to create light trails in low lighting conditions with the right exposure settings.

Using a camera and a torch try to create your own light-trail photograph.

It might help if you close the curtains/blinds.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUES

Macro mode

Macro photography in simple terms refers to the photographing of objects extremely close up, the aim of which is to produce images where the subject is life-sized or bigger. It is useful for taking images of subjects that are not normally visible to the human eye, such as images of insects.

When the subject is recorded at life-size on a digital camera it's at a 1:1 magnification ratio, and at half-size it's at a 1:2 magnification ratio – anything smaller than 1:10 ratio is no longer considered to be macro.

It is possible to take macro photography with a zoom lens, although it requires a long focal length and how close the camera can get to the subject while shooting.



For practical reasons a specialist macro prime lens is usually used, which can shoot close and focused images of the subject from a distance, although it can also be used with a telescopic lens.

Questions:






27. What is the minimum magnification ratio to be considered macro photography?






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Framing

Framing describes the position of the camera in relation to the subject, and within the frame. Different shots are used to give a number of perspectives providing additional insight to the audience.

Type of shot	Description	
 Extreme long shot	Shows a large amount of the scene to establish the general location of the action.	
 Long shot	This type of shot still contains the scene; however, it gives the audience a more specific location of the action.	
Full shot	Shows the entire height of a person within the frame, allowing the audience to see the subject clearly. It allows the audience to fully see the costumes and the relationship between characters within the setting.	
Medium shot	Contains a view of the character from the waist up. It allows the viewer to see the character's face and body language more clearly. It also allows them to clearly see the interaction with other characters.	
 Medium close-up	Includes the face and shoulders of the character. Allows the viewer to see the character's emotions while still being able to see the background.	

Type of shot	Description	
Close-up	A very intimate shot where the background is out of focus. This allows the audience to concentrate on the subject's face, emphasising their facial expressions. When an object is framed in this way it's usually to show detail or an important element.	
Extreme close-up	As the name suggests it's a very specific part of the character's face. It's used to create an intense mood and draw attention to a specific part of the subject's face.	
Over the shoulder shot	This shot is usually used to show conversation. It allows the audience to see the character's reaction and implies a degree of intimacy between the subjects.	
Point of view shot	This shot aims to be from the view of one of the characters, used in order to make the audience feel as if they are part of the photo.	
Aerial shot	This refers to a shot from above, showing objects such as cars and people below.	

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Angle

The angle of the camera in relation to the subject can give additional emotion to the audience. For example, it can impact how the characters or scene are perceived.

Task:

Look at worksheet (A) detailing a range of different camera framing shots.

Complete any missing sections:

- Name of the shot
- Description
- Audience impact of the shot
- Sketch of the shot

Angle	Description
Wide angle	<p>is a camera lens that encompasses a wide angle of view (usually greater than 55°) and a short focal length.</p> <p>It can be used to show a wide landscape and also physical distortion between objects, which is particularly relevant when close to the photographic subject.</p> <p>For example, in the image to the right the horizon and the floor have become distorted so that straight lines appear curved.</p>
Low angle	<p>The opposite of a high-angle shot, the camera is low and shows the subject from below.</p> <p>It's used to make the subject appear powerful and domineering as they fill the frame, creating the impression that the viewer is a helpless child looking up.</p>
High angle	<p>The camera is positioned up high and looks down at the subject.</p> <p>It has the effect of belittling the subject, making them appear small if they are a child looking up at an adult.</p>
Eye-level	<p>This is a standard view showing the subject neutrally in a way that the audience would expect to view it in person.</p>
Canted angle	<p>A canted shot is when the camera is tilted on its roll axis so that the horizon is at an angle with the bottom of the frame. It aims to disorientate the viewer and portray emotional tension.</p>

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Level

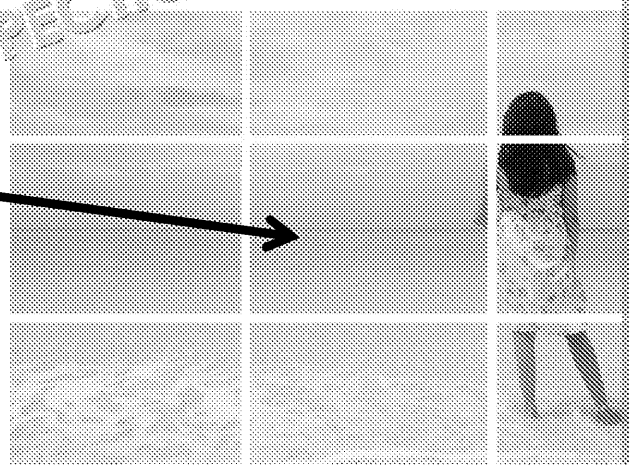
Apart from eye level, a photograph can be taken at either a high or low level. This requires a change in the camera angle to adequately refocus upon the subject.

A high or low camera level may at times be necessary to capture an image of a subject at a height different to that of the photographer, but it can also be used in order to create a different perspective on a scene by changing their viewpoint.

Composition

Composition refers to the way that specific elements within the photo are arranged. It's used to influence the perspective or emotional statement of the image. Looking at the image below you can see two different methods of image composition: **symmetry**.

Symmetry is a balance that has been achieved by evenly distributing the visual elements. This provides focus to the centre of the image.



The rule of thirds is a common yet popular method of composing images. Most cameras have the ability to overlay the grid onto the live-view. The horizontal and vertical lines of the scene such as the horizon or floor.

Questions:

28. Define 'composition'. (1 mark)

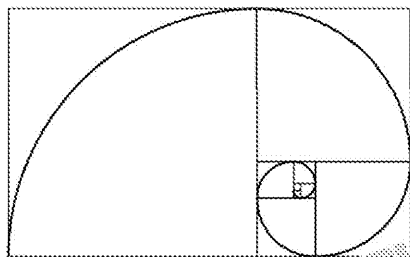
29. Provide two ways in which the composition of an image can influence

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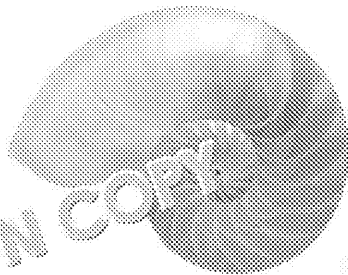


Golden ratio

The golden ratio is another composition design principle based on the ratio of the parts from the viewers' perspective. This ratio appears within nature, which could be used to create a more aesthetically pleasing image. There are also numerous examples of art and photographic works over time that have used the golden ratio in mind, such as the Mona Lisa and the Last Supper.



The Fibonacci spiral



A seashell, an example of the Fibonacci spiral within nature

The Fibonacci spiral is the most well-known method of visualising the golden ratio. It shows how a series of diagonal points create a path where elements within the image can be placed to enhance the aesthetic appeal.

Note how in the image to the right the proportions of the golden ratio are also used to aid visibility. The positioning of the children in an identical shape to the gaze of the audience in an identical pattern.

Leading lines

Leading lines are a photography technique where lines are used to guide the view of the audience. Usually they occur with straight lines beginning at the bottom of the image that narrow towards an infinity point where the lines converge in the middle of the image.



Examples of how leading lines can be used:

- By providing a continuous lead from the foreground to the background it can help to create depth and perspective.
- It can lead the viewers to a central subject where the lines converge to create a point of importance.

Although leading lines are commonly found in man-made objects within the environment, they can also be found in nature – the lines could be used to guide the viewer's eye either, just as a guide to help you out and experiment!



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Positioning

To demonstrate the use of alignment and positioning look at the image on the right. Within this image the old Chinese pavilion has been juxtaposed with the industrial factory in the background to emphasise the difference between and change of the human and natural environment that has occurred over time.

This is further highlighted by the inclusion of trees and shrubbery in the foreground – the photography could be aiming to lead the audience to think about how the pavilion sits within nature while the imposing figure of the factory looms in the background.

Lastly, this image could have been taken by the photographer to display a physical manifestation of a perceived change in Chinese culture philosophy nature is observed as a spiritual and sacred energy force, and with an ever-increasing example of human infrastructure.



Frame

Frames are a common concept within photography. This is where natural objects such as arches and holes are used to provide a border or frame to an image. The main focus of using frames is to isolate the subject of the photo and draw the attention of the audience towards the centre.

Looking at the image to the right we can see that the framing gives the audience a degree of context for the subject. The archway suggests that the ruins might have been of a religious building due to the shape commonly being found in religious buildings.

It also helps provide depth to the image and cause the audience to think about what it's obscuring.

Viewpoint

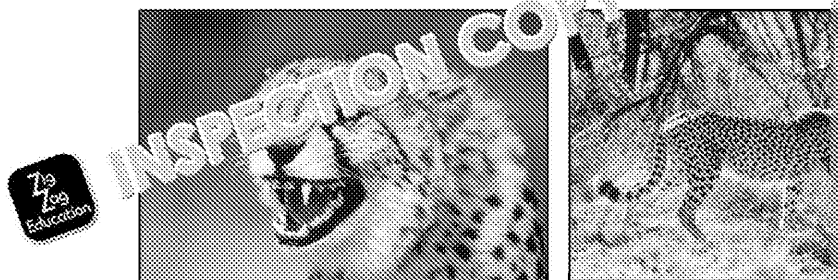
Constantly shooting photos from eye level can sometimes appear boring so different viewpoints are used to add creativity and differing perspectives to a range of heights and angles that can be used by photographers.

Focus

Within photography depth of field describes the amount of the photo that

A shallow depth of field is when only the subject is in focus, and the background is blurred. This can be used to draw the attention of the audience to a specific

A deep depth of field is the opposite; this is when the entire image is in focus



Look at the two images above. The one to the left has a very shallow depth of field, making the background appear blurred. However, in the right-hand one with a deep depth of field, more detail is visible across the entire image.

Depth of field is controlled by the aperture of a camera. A shallow depth of field is achieved by a large aperture (small f-number), and a deep depth of field by a small aperture (large f-number).

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Zoom

There are two different types of zoom that feature on digital cameras: optical zoom and digital zoom. Optical zoom is where the physical movement of lenses magnifies an image, allowing a photographer to gain a closer perspective of the subject without significantly distorting the image.

On the other hand, digital zoom is a process whereby the pixels of a section of an image are further focused on an area. This method leads to a significant decrease in image quality, where pixels are stretched out to cover a greater area.

Questions:

30. What is the purpose of leading lines in photography? (2 marks)
31. What does viewpoint refer to? (1 mark)
32. What is depth of field? (1 mark)
33. What is the difference between optical and digital zoom? (4 marks)

Task:

Now that you've learnt about some of the rules of photography and composition, experiment taking photos while keeping these principles and guidelines in mind.

You don't have to copy the shots listed, the aim is to be creative and use your imagination about what you want to achieve from the photos, what message you might convey and what audience may feel.

At this moment don't worry about changing the camera settings, keep it set to auto.

EXPORTING AND STORING DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

File transfer

There are a number of different methods by which data can be transferred from a camera to a computer. Most modern digital cameras use SD cards as a standard storage device. Most modern laptop computers have inbuilt SD card readers that the user can use to transfer data without the need of additional equipment or software.

Digital cameras also come with USB data cables that facilitate data transfer to a computer or other supported digital devices.

Some smart devices such as smartphones and other compact cameras allow users to upload photographic and video footage to the Internet or another device through wireless methods such as Bluetooth and Wi-Fi. This method, therefore, eliminates the need to physically connect the device to a computer in certain circumstances.

Questions:

34. What is the standard storage device used on most digital cameras? (1 mark)
35. State four ways in which users can upload photos to a computer. (4 marks)

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File formatting

When compressing a photo file it's important to note what the photo will be used for, which it is to be displayed, as that can help decide the choice of which format to use.

As previously covered, JPEG files are usually small in size and commonly used for sharing over digital devices and the web.

TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) is a lossless file format that's commonly used in the publishing industry, and typically results in large file sizes.

Version control

File organisation is important as it allows files to be found easily and avoid being accidentally deleted on a computer. This is particularly relevant if working within a team or a large number of files.


Version control describes the process of saving documents in the context of multiple versions. For example, the first draft of a graphic being saved with 'v1' and following versions with 'v2', 'v3' etc.

Naming files properly makes them significantly easier to locate, and it also allows them to be found within search functions. One method of naming files is by using their description; for example, a photo of a kitten called 'DSCN004.jpg' could be renamed 'Black_kitten.jpg'

Not only should the image be named properly, but also the folder that contains it. It could be useful to name the folder and image with the current day, month and year as this would identify when the photos were uploaded, such as 'Black_kitten_05042015.jpg' (5th April 2015).

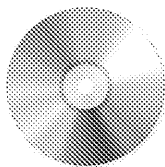
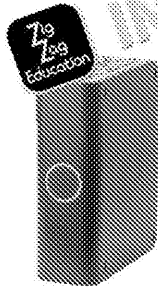
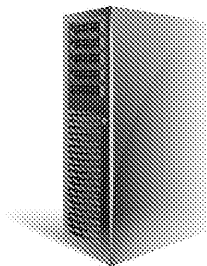
Storage devices

When working with digital files they need to be saved on a memory device that can be accessed and edited. Most modern devices allow the user to input additional memory by using external or expandable solutions. Such hardware is necessary when working with a high-resolution RAW files that hold more memory than other conventional file format types.

Storage type	Advantages	Disadvantages
Internal storage This is the memory already within the device.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy and simply to use. • No need for additional hardware or cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually only a limited amount of memory is available. • Most DSLR cameras come with a removable memory card slot.
SD card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widely supported across most electronic devices, including variants for mobile phones. • Available in a range of different file sizes and speeds for reading and writing data. • Cheap to purchase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small and can be easily lost or damaged. • That they can be full of data.

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Storage type	Advantages	
DVD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable and transferrable to other platforms. • Cheap to purchase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow to read information methods. • Standard format. • Can be easily accessed the data using software. • Some newer devices (e.g. MacBook) do not support DVD. • Due to the misplaced focus on physical storage.
External Hard Drive / USB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data can be easily read, written and transferred. • Portable and transferrable to other platforms. • Use little power. • Small in size and easy to store. • Available in various storage sizes, e.g. 250 GB, 500 GB, and 1 TB. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to small size and misplaced focus on physical storage. • Can be prone to damage if removed from the device. • Can be costly in size.
Web-based storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows data to be shared between connected devices. • Accessible in different locations. • Frees physical storage for other uses and additional files. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No access to data without network. • Can be expensive.
PC/Laptop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily accessible for transferring data to other sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not as easy as many other methods.

Overall it's good practice to save data and files on at least two devices, one as the primary and the other as a backup in a readily accessible location. This helps to save or corruption of files.

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Question



36. What is version control? (1 mark)

37. What is a backup and why are they used? (1 mark)

Task:

Can you think of any disadvantages of using a PC/laptop as a storage solution?

Aim C: Create digital photographs for a media product

Objectives:

- ✓ To be able to identify client requirements and develop concepts from a brief.
- ✓ To understand the use of photography techniques and other considerations for a photo shoot.
- ✓ To produce digital photographs for a media product.

DEVELOP CONCEPTS FROM A BRIEF

Brief

When producing a moving image for a **client**, it's vital that the production has been planned and organised efficiently to ensure the client's wishes have been fulfilled.

In this instance it's useful to create a brief after first discussing the project with the client; this is a short but descriptive account of the task ahead.

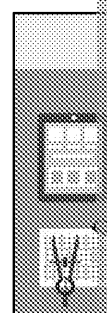
In general the brief should be used to inform the photographer exactly what's needed to complete the photo shoot as desired by the client.

- **Objective** – what is the purpose? Where will the photos be displayed?

The objective is important because certain factors such as the style of photography, post-production editing and composition will be determined by both the subject being photographed and the target audience. For example, if photographing a historical item for display in a museum, the photographer wouldn't likely choose angles and viewpoints that distort the real-life appearance of the item.

- **Target audience** – who are the audience? What are their age, sex, interests and location?
- **Subject** – what is being photographed and what makes it unique? How will the photo in terms of the audience reaction? This can help to influence the style of shot and viewpoint.
- **Scope** – describes the size of a project, in particular any set deadlines and the number of photos to be produced in time for an exhibition or event.
- **Budget** – the budget is determined by a range of elements such as the location, the need to rent any additional equipment. Overall, it will vary depending on the scale of each individual project.
- **Client's preferences or restrictions** – any particular ideas that the client likes or dislikes that will influence the production as a whole.
- **Experimentation** – this refers to creative photographic aspects such as lighting, composition and to the exposure settings.

Overall, it's essential that the brief is as thorough and appropriate as possible for the project to understand the client's requirements. This helps to ensure the production organisation are suited to avoid **scope creep**.



Key

- ✓ Client's requirements
- ✓ Target audience
- ✓ Subject
- ✓ Scope

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An example of a brief is included below:

Client Information	ZigZag Fabrics is a local seamstress cooperative for the homeless.
Contact	ZigZag Fabrics Gloucester Road Bristol BS1 0AB
Project	A range of male and female modelling shots.
Project Information	They want to open a charity shop and sell some have produced, and want the modelling shot window and also a n
Requirements and Restrictions	Some shots in urban locations. Different body types of models. Minimal studio shots.
Objectives	Increase publicity, measurable by assessing en website views.
Target Audience	Males and females aged 16+
Key Dates	Deadline: 14 th February 2017
Budget	£200 for any additional costs relating to equip
Experimentation	Some shots showing the background environm
Additional Information	Further emphasis on clothes rather than faces

Questions:

38. Why is it important to create a brief? (1 mark)
39. Suggest a scenario that could lead to scope creep. (1 mark)

Task:

You have been tasked with organising a photoshoot to take photos of your facilities. The photos are to be used in an open-day brochure for the public and parents.

Using worksheet (B) write a brief to establish a clear set of requirements include:

- Purpose of objective
- Audience and style
- Target audience
- Design constraints
- Details of core content

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Ideas development

Upon receiving the design brief, you must analyse, research and develop the project.

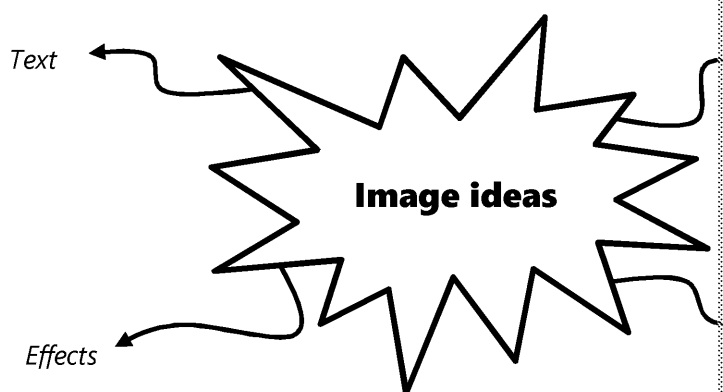
There is no strict method to undertake this process, and it usually starts with a study of the brief to clearly identify the main client requirements.

When working within a team this process allows everyone to cross-examine

Brainstorming describes a process for collecting a large amount of information. It's an enjoyable and effective group word-association activity that aims to generate ideas associated with a key word or idea.

Words are written down, which in turn should generate more words associated with the team each member of the group should contribute.

This approach encourages team contribution because it is easy and straightforward. Ideas can be written down which can be drawn out and further explored and



Discussion is another important stage within the development stage that involves the client requirements and desires. This could also be part of the process to discover the overall intended audience impact of the media product.

Task:

Within a group, brainstorm about a promotional advert for dairy products that comes to mind.

Next create a mind map or storyboard from the strongest ideas.

Has it helped you to visualise an end product?

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Current practice

Market and competitor analysis is another method that can be used to develop your ideas. You look at similar media products and study their strengths and limitations. One advantage of this method is that it allows you to use the information that has been gathered to develop your ideas – incorporating and adapting ideas that were successful and improving on ideas that were less effective in fulfilling its aims.

An additional benefit is that it allows the identification of market trends and opportunities in the market that could be used for product development and marketing purposes.

Review initial ideas

Before going forward to solidify ideas and undertake the photo shoot it's important to review the ideas. This can be through the use of both internal and outside scrutiny, with objective feedback to be gained from outside parties which can then be used to improve the ideas.

It also allows you to consider alternatives and create contingency plans in case of changes to the project.

Lastly, it is a chance to ensure that the idea is truly suited to the client requirements. This is an important factor of the review and development process.

Trial layout

A trial layout is essentially a mock-up or prototype of the final product which shows how or where the photograph ideas will integrate within the media product. It provides ample opportunity to reflect upon the ideas and overall design, gain external feedback and create contingency plans for any issues that may arise during the production.

One way in which this could be undertaken would be to sketch or outline a rough layout of the media product.

Questions:

40. What is meant by 'client requirements'? (1 mark)
41. What are the advantages of reviewing initial ideas? (2 marks)
42. What is a trial layout and why is one used? (2 marks)

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CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

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Considerations

In addition to photographic and environmental techniques there are also considerations that need to be understood to successfully undertake a photo shoot.

- **Subject:** Whether a person or object, the subject of the photograph should be prepared for the shoot. This includes visual preparation through the mental preparation when working with other people.

Models and other crew members should be informed of the timetable and **dramatic intentions** for the photos. This will help to ensure that the other members help to achieve the dramatic intentions.

- **Availability of resource:** By creating a work plan, space and time can be ensured that personnel, models and equipment are available for use.
- **Booking:** It is necessary to book studio space, models and equipment in the allocated time. It is important that significant time is allowed to complete the set tasks, while also allowing time for any issues to occur and cause scope creep.
- **Test shots:** Before the actual shoot the photographer should visit the location to assess suitability for the set purpose. During this process some test shots can be taken for the photographer to frame the scene and assess any factors that could affect the photos.
- **Image resolution:** If stated by the client, then the image resolution should match that of its use. This is to make sure that image quality remains high and does not suffer from pixellation when scaled.
- **ISO:** The relationship between ISO and image noise should always be considered when setting up the camera, especially within low-lighting situations as noise can have a substantial impact upon perceptions of image quality. Reducing ISO is an extremely time-consuming process.
- **Location assessment:** Scouting the location prior to the shoot is one of the most important steps to help identify any potential viewpoints, risk and advantages of the location. This is particularly relevant when shooting in exterior locations where weather conditions can be unpredictable. This process is known as a location recce and can be supported by sketches/photos of the location that can be used in the organisation of the shoot.

A risk assessment is also part of this process. This is a document where potential risks are identified and details of how to ease the effects of these risks should they occur.

Task:

Using your work plan, complete a location recce and risk assessment for an interior or exterior location of your choice.

Remember to include factors such as weather, light sources, power supply, etc.

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PRODUCTION OF DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS FOR A

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Digital photography techniques

In addition to the techniques previously outlined, the shutter speed of a camera can be used to show motion within an image as sharp or blurred – portraying motion or a freeze-frame.

For example, in the images shown to the right, the upper photo has been taken with a high shutter speed, displaying the moving water as crisp. In the lower image, the water appears blurred and creates the appearance of being fast-moving.

Within video production this can be used to display motion blur. For example, a moving object can be made to appear realistic with an amount of motion blur similar to human vision, or it can be used to disorient the audience by creating motion trails with a slow shutter speed.



Composition and mise en scène

When thinking about composition and mise en scène, possibly the most important thing to remember is that the choices made are suitable for the brief and fulfil the requirements. This includes the appropriateness of certain elements such as framing, cropping and angles against the same criteria.

The rules listed within this resource are common important techniques used in photography. Composition is of particular importance as it allows you as the photographer to guide the audience think.

Although they are listed as rules this doesn't mean that they need to be followed strictly. They are more as common guidelines that you can use. After all, if everyone followed these rules then everyone's photographs would soon become identical. The best method is to use these techniques and your own creative imagination.

Storing

When saving files, they should be in the file format as specified in the client brief. The file format on which they will be displayed. You may find it useful to refer to the file formats detailed earlier (page 11).

Copyright

Most images and photos will be protected by some sort of copyright, meaning that in order to use this image the owner of the copyright will need to give permission.

Generally the creator of the work automatically owns the copyright; however, when an employee creates a piece of work on behalf of their employer the copyright usually rests with the employer. The copyright holder can also assign copyright to another person or allow another person or organisation to license their work.

Where an image has more than one creator then they will all be the copyright owners.

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It's important to note that making a copy of a photo or taking a photo of a photo doesn't give you copyright.

One exception is when an analogue photo is digitised (with permission from the owner) and sufficient skill was deemed to have been used to achieve this.

Some photos found online are controlled by libraries that hold copyright on the images. These can be subject to additional restrictions that apply to their use, as well as restrictions for commercial purposes.

As a digital portfolio is meant to be of your own work, images obtained from the internet should not be included within a portfolio, nor should any work that you haven't created.

The only exception to this rule is if you have done some post-production editing that adds value. In this case it should be clearly noted to the audience.

Within the UK, copyright lasts for the life of the creator plus an additional 70 years after their death, after which it's transferred into the public domain. Implications of copyright infringement vary depending on the circumstances and the owner.

Consequences can include:

- The user of the photo being asked to buy a licence.
- The owner of the copyright bringing the user to court. This could result in the user being asked to stop using the photo, legal fees and financial compensation.
- The user could even be subject to criminal prosecution if the infringement is deemed to be deliberate and on a commercial scale.

Questions:

43. Define 'copyright'. (1 mark)

44. In what circumstance can you use somebody else's work within your portfolio?

45. When does a piece of intellectual work transfer into the public domain?

46. Which of the following property rights are not awarded automatically?

Copyright, Trademark, Patent

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Aim D: Review own digital photography for

Objectives:

- ✓ To be able to select photos for use based upon quality and aesthetic features
- ✓ To assess the use of technical skills in creating digital photos for a media product
- ✓ To be able to self-evaluate your own photography work.

EDITING

Selecting images from a contact sheet

A contact sheet is the name given to a document that displays the series of photographs taken in a photo shoot. As they are laid out together in series it is easy for the photographer to select or reject images based on a comparison with the others taken.

This method of display is useful when there are a large number of photos to look through as it allows you to quickly see which photos have desired qualities.

Contact sheets can also be used to show a client on paper (as opposed to a digital display) the choice of images likely to be used within the media product.

There are a range of important image features that should always be considered when selecting or reviewing photographs. These are:

- **Focus** – unless intended for aesthetic appeal the subject of an image should be sharp and in focus.
- **Exposure** – there shouldn't be any parts of the image that are over or under exposed unless intended and justified.
- **Noise** – an indication of poor use of camera skills resulting from a

SELF-EVALUATION

Critical thinking and self-evaluation can be thought of as processes that develop through reflection, both of which are vital factors in this final stage.

When reviewing a finished project a number of questions are raised in relation to design requirements.

Here are examples of a number of questions you could ask yourself when

- Were the aims of the brief?
- Are the final images suited to what the client asked for?
- Is it appropriate for the target audience?
- Is it an acceptable file format for the use and application?
- Is it of acceptable quality?
- Does the composition of the shot relate to the message I'm trying to convey?
- Are all the shots properly exposed? Is the lighting suitable?

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There should be a clear justification for the selection of photos within a portfolio. The justification should also extend to the composition and exposure of the photos.

The use of analytical and evaluative questions could help to force you to think about the evidence and reason when referring to your justification.

Examples of analysis questions:

- How...?
- Why...?
- What are the reasons for...?
- What is the relationship between... and...?
- What are the possible solutions to these issues?

Examples of evaluation questions:

- What are the advantages or disadvantages of...?
- Is the evidence clear?
- Is there support for my opinion?
- Is... applicable for the project?

It's important to receive outside, creative and unbiased feedback as it provides an alternative perspective. Before showing the client it could also be useful to show the intended target group and assess their views. This could give the opportunity for changes.

It could be useful to note down all the strengths and weaknesses that were identified at various stages of the project development. The significance of this stage is to avoid making similar mistakes and to highlight key strengths, which both benefit the project.

You should access your work according to the requirements and guidelines of the intended and actual audience response.

Listed below are a number of features that could be considered when self-evaluating your work:

- Shutter speed
- Aperture
- Focus
- Framing
- Use of mise en scène
- Composition and dramatic intention
- Lighting and exposure

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Unit 10: Digital photography for a media product

For this task you must research, plan, produce and review a series of digital media products that cover all of the learning outcomes and main tasks included within this guide.

Scenario – Music shop

A local music shop has opened a musical workshop within your school that aims to help young people learn how to play musical instruments, and they have a range of instruments that they want to showcase to other students.

The shop plans to display a range of posters around the local area to advertise the service, and also promote online sales of their video lessons.

One of your teachers has recommended you to take a range of photos that can be used in the marketing campaign. The workshop wants internal and external photos of models that can be used to represent a theme of empowerment and confidence through learning. It also asks that the photos feature various musical instruments or equipment as an integral part of each image.

The rest of the idea development has been left to you to decide, requiring requirements listed above.

At least **six** photos should be produced that demonstrate a variety of styles and composition. You must show knowledge of the camera settings and features.

Task 1 – Research

→ This task covers **Learning Aim A**

Within this task you are required to investigate the reasons that digital photography is used in media products and how camera settings work.

You then need to select and analyse two different photographs and present your findings on their purpose and use.

Task 2 – Explore

→ This task covers **Learning Aim B**

You will be required to explore digital photography in different environments and compare your findings to the scenario you have been set. You must evaluate your findings and identify the strengths and limitations of the ideas that underpin the photos you find.

You must remember to produce annotated examples alongside a presentation of your analytical skills.

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Task 3 – Plan and Produce

→ This task covers **Learning Aim C**

In order to complete the task you must first further develop the brief using your own ideas and initiative on how best to improve the brief while taking note of the specific client requirements.

It's recommended that you follow the planning and pre-production guidelines outlined within this guide but you're also free to implement any changes that you see fit.

You must, however, produce the required documents to show how you planned the production of the photographs.

Finally, you will have to plan a photo shoot to produce the digital photos and techniques that you have learnt to complete this task. You have to export the files in a format relevant for their use by the client.



Task 4 – Review

→ This task covers **Learning Aim D**

Now that you have finished taking photos you must review the work that you have produced.

You should assess and consider your work against the technical skills outlined in the brief that you intended to produce when planning the photos.

Think about the impact that your choices throughout the production had on the final work and the strengths and limitations of your work.

Your thoughts and findings should then be documented in a written appraisal.



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Unit 10: Digital photography for a media product

Learning aim A: Understand the production of digital photography

Mark band	What is needed
Level 2 Distinction	Have you provided evidence of discussion and analysis about why photographs are produced in two media products across a range of media sectors?
Level 2 Merit	Have you explained how digital cameras are used to produce photographs? Have you explained why photographs are produced in two different media products?
Level 2 Pass	Have you described how digital cameras are used to produce photographs? Have you described the use of photographs in at least two different products?
Level 1	Have you outlined how digital cameras are used to produce photographs? Have you summarised why photographs are produced in at least two different media products?

Learning aim B: Explore techniques of digital photography

Mark band	What is needed
Level 2 Distinction	Have you demonstrated confident use of limited digital photography techniques? Have you analysed the techniques used in two different types of photography for digital media products?
Level 2 Merit	Have you demonstrated effective use of limited digital photography techniques? Have you explained the techniques used in two different types of photography for digital media products?
Level 2 Pass	Have you demonstrated adequate use of limited digital photography techniques? Have you described the techniques used in two different types of photography for digital media products?
Level 1	Have you demonstrated basic use of limited digital photography techniques? Have you outlined the techniques used in two different types of photography for digital media products?

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Learning aim C: Create digital photographs for a media product

Mark band	What is needed
Level 2 Distinction	Have you produced creative shots in different lighting conditions for a digital media product that show a confident interpretation of a brief?
Level 2 Merit	Have you developed a creative concept for photographs for a digital media product with competent reference to photographic considerations? Have you produced effective interior digital photographs for a digital media product that show an appropriate interpretation of the brief? Have you produced effective exterior shots for a digital media product that show a confident interpretation of the brief?
Level 2 Pass	Have you developed an appropriate concept for photographs for a digital media product with adequate reference to photographic considerations? Have you produced acceptable interior digital photographs for a digital media product? Have you produced acceptable exterior shots for a digital media product that only show a suitable interpretation of the brief?
Level 1	Have you developed a basic concept for photographs for a digital media product with only limited reference to photographic considerations? Have you produced basic interior digital photographs for a digital media product? Have you produced basic exterior shots for a digital media product that show a limited interpretation of the brief?

Learning aim D: Review own digital photography for a media product

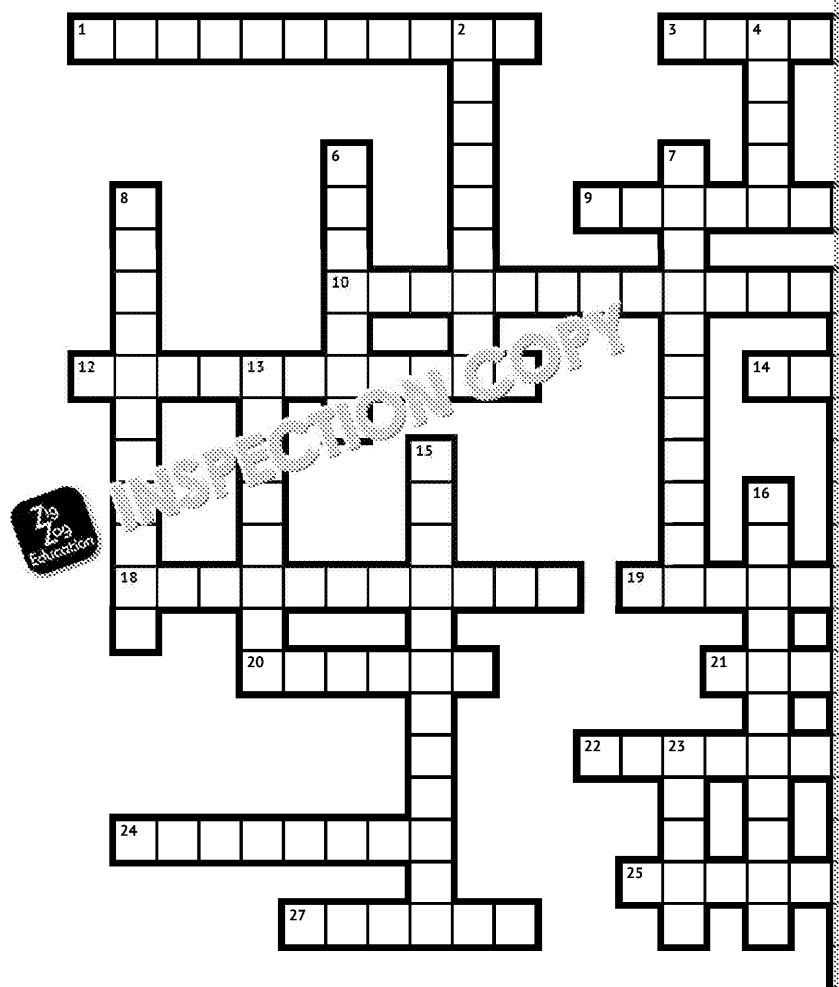
Mark band	What is needed
Level 2 Distinction	Have you evaluated the technical and creative choices made during the production of your photography, including how these have enabled you to fulfil the brief?
Level 2 Merit	Have you analysed the technical and creative choices within your photography, including how these have enabled you to fulfil the brief?
Level 2 Pass	Have you explained your selection and rejection of final photographs for your intended media product? Have you explained the technical and creative strengths of your photography?
Level 1	Have you produced a summary of the final photographs selected for your intended media product? Have you summarised the technical strengths of your digital photography?

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Unit 10: Digital photography for a media production



Across

- 1 The 'coming together' of technologies to create a new device. (11)
- 3 A type of camera that gives the user limited control over its settings and exposure (point and click). (7)
- 9 The art of taking and processing photographs. (11)
- 10 A specific group of people who are the intended viewers or recipients. (6,8)
- 12 The distance between the centre of a camera lens and its focus, expressed in millimetres (mm). (5,6)
- 14 An acronym for the type of camera in which the user has full control of its settings and exposure. (4)
- 18 Portrait or landscape. (11)
- 19 A type of camera lens in which the focal length varies. (4,4)
- 20 A device that's used to control the amount of light within a scene. (6)
- 21 A three-axis mount used to stabilise a camera. (6)
- 22 The amount of light within a photo, determined by the quantity of light reaching the image sensor. (8)
- 24 An iris-like opening located within the camera lens that opens and closes to allow light to pass into the camera body. (8)
- 25 A term used to describe how much detail an image holds. (10)
- 27 A camera known as being halfway between compact and DSLR. (6)

Down

- 2 The exclusive legal right to use a work. (9)
- 4 A type of photograph taken from a close distance. (5)
- 5 A compression technique that removes unnecessary data from the image. (11)
- 6 A barn door that partially blocks light from reaching the camera sensor. (6)
- 7 A composition design that follows the 1.618 ratio that is balanced. (11)
- 8 The layout of assets on a page, such as text and images. (11)
- 11 A phrase used to describe the overall look of an image. (6,11)
- 13 A compression technique that removes unnecessary data without a loss in quality. (11)
- 15 How much of an image is captured by the aperture setting on a camera. (6)
- 16 The process of gaining focus on a subject without degrading the quality of the rest of the image. (11)
- 17 The process of defining the colour white in reality. (11)
- 23 A singular square, it is used to crop an image. (5)
- 26 The name of the setting that controls the camera's sensitivity. (3)

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Answers

QUESTIONS

1. A bridge camera is one that has the settings and features of both a compact and a DSLR.
2. One mark given for a correct advantage and one for a correct disadvantage.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Easy to take photos and simple to operate.	Lens can't be changed
Commonly have some customisation features.	No control over exposure

3. One mark for each of the following answers: (2 marks)
 - The ability to change the camera settings.
 - Full user control over the camera settings.
4. The viewfinder is the small opening on a camera that the photographer sees through to take the photo. (1 mark)
5. One mark for each of the following points mentioned: (4 marks)
 - Compact camera has an electronic viewfinder.
 - Compact camera can be seen as an untrue, less accurate representation of the scene.
 - DSLR viewfinder works through the use of a pentaprism and dichroic mirror.
 - DSLR viewfinder is the same image that the sensor sees.
6. A zoom lens is a camera lens where the user has the ability to adjust the focal length.
7. One mark for each of the following points mentioned: (4 marks)

Lens Type	Advantages	Disadvantages
Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User can change the focal length and, therefore, the perspective • Takes up less space and reduces the need for a number of lenses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower image quality • Decreased aperture • Smaller sensor
Prime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior image quality • Lighter in weight • Wider aperture and depth of field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one focal length • Usually larger

8. A camera sensor is a device that's used to read the amount of light with which a photograph is taken.
9. In a CCD sensor the charge is transferred in columns down the chip and then row of the chip, where an analogue to digital converter converts the charge into a digital value. (2 marks)
10. No marks are awarded for the student's opinion on which sensor is better. One mark is awarded for providing three valid advantages and three disadvantages for each sensor.
11. ISO controls the sensitivity of the camera sensor. (1 mark)
12. One mark for each correct answer: *ISO, shutter speed and aperture*. (3 marks)
13. Decrease the ISO setting and then adjust the shutter speed and aperture to achieve the same exposure. (2 marks)
14. The red-eye effect is an abnormality caused when the light of a camera flash reflects off the retinas of the photographic subject. Due to the speed of the flash the pupils of the eye fail to constrict and restrict the amount of light entering the eye. (2 marks)
15. One mark for each of the following: (2 marks)
 - Fill flash is needed in any circumstance where there are unwanted shadows on the photographic subject.
 - Aims to expose the dark-shadowed areas.

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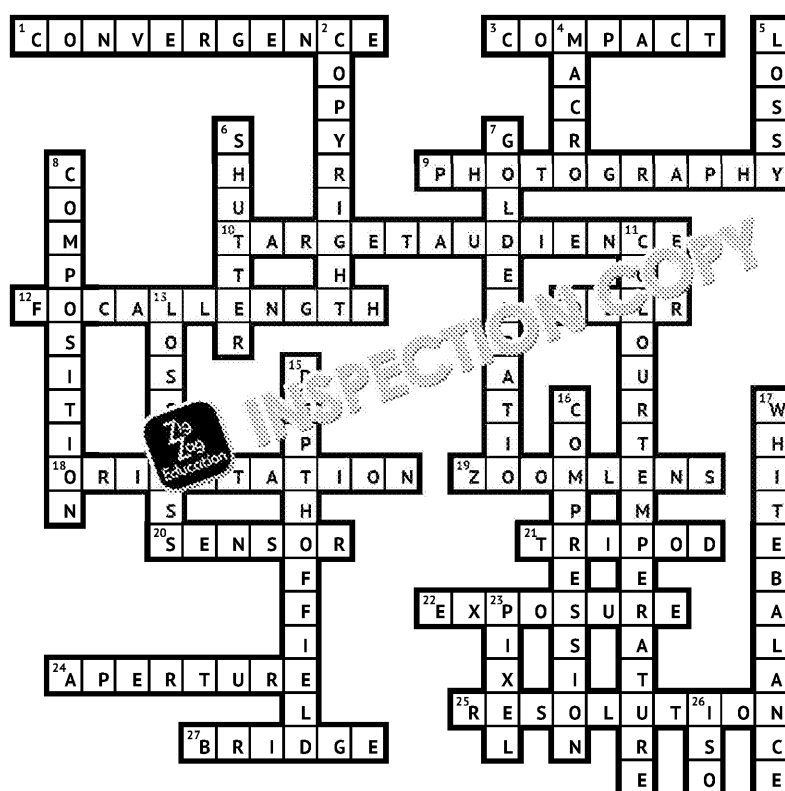
16. White balance controls the camera's interpretation of white depending on the lighting conditions within the image. (1 mark)
17. The position of the sun within the sky. (1 mark)
18. Any reasonable risk of damage or loss of quality should be awarded the mark for the likelihood of motion blur resulting from camera shake. (1 mark)
19. To stabilise the camera in order to take photo or videos where handheld.
20. Mark awarded for one of the following (1 mark):
 - File format choice
 - Image quality setting
 - Image resolution
21. One mark for each of the following points identified: (2 marks)
 - Lossy compression aims to reduce file size by discarding some data
 - Lossless compression aims to reduce file size without any reduction in quality
22. One mark for each of the following: (4 marks)
 - Focal length
 - Exposure
 - Sensor size
 - Lens
23. Mark awarded for any genuine and realistic risk to equipment or crew, such as adverse weather conditions. (1 mark)
24. Controllable environmental factors such as lighting. (1 mark)
25. The constant movement of people. (1 mark)
26. 1:10 (1 mark)
27. To allow the photographer to show different perspectives to the audience.
28. Composition is defined as the overall design, and the method in which a photograph is created.
29. One mark awarded for each answer: (2 marks)
 - Draw attention to a specific part or element of the image.
 - Initiate an intended thought process.
30. One mark for each of the following: (2 marks)
 - By providing a continuous lead from the foreground to the background, creating a sense of depth and perspective.
 - Can lead the viewers to a central subject where the lines converge, emphasizing its importance.
31. Viewpoint refers to the angle and position that the camera is facing to take a photograph.
32. Depth of field describes the amount of the image that is in focus. (1 mark)
33. One mark each for the following: (4 marks)
 - Optical zoom is achieved with zoom lenses where the physical movement of the lens allows the image to be zoomed in or out.
 - Optical zoom allows the photographer to gain a closer perspective of the subject without significantly degrading the quality of the image.
 - Digital zoom is a process whereby the pixels of a section of the image are cropped in and then stretched out to cover a greater area.
 - Digital zoom leads to significant decrease in image quality due to the fact that the pixels are stretched out to cover a greater area.
34. SD card (1 mark).

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35. One mark for each of the following: (4 marks)
- Using an SD card reader
 - Using a USB cable
 - Bluetooth
 - Wi-Fi
36. Version control describes the process of saving different versions of a document during its development. (1 mark)
37. A backup is a copy of files that is used as a safeguarding tool to ensure that data is not lost, edited or damaged. (1 mark)
38. A brief is important as it allows you to clearly document the wants and needs of the client, ensuring that the project moves in the right direction and that scope creep is avoided. (1 mark)
39. One of the following answers (1 mark)
- Any scenario in which a change to the design is fundamentally changed
 - The delay of a project
40. Client requirements are the needs and desires set out by the client within a brief. (1 mark)
41. One mark for each of the following answers: (2 marks)
- Provides the opportunity to gain feedback.
 - Can plan contingencies and consider alternatives.
 - Can check if the idea is suited to the brief and the client's requirements.
42. A trial layout aims to show how the final product will look before it's produced, allowing the developer to gain feedback and make changes. (1 mark)
43. Copyright is an exclusive legal right of the creator to duplicate, license and distribute their work. (1 mark)
44. When you have had an input in its creation. (1 mark)
45. 70 years after the death of the creator. (1 mark)
46. One mark for each of the following: (2 marks)
- Trademarks
 - Patents




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A Camera Framing

Type of shot	Description	
	Shows a large amount of the scene to establish the general location of the action.	
 <i>Long shot</i>		
<i>Full shot</i>		
	<p>Contains a view of the character from the waist up, it allows the viewer to see the character's face and body language more clearly.</p> <p>It also allows them to clearly see the interaction with other characters.</p>	
 <i>Medium close-up</i>	<p>Includes the face and shoulders of the character. Allows the viewer to see the character's emotions while still being able to see the background.</p>	

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Type of shot	Description	
Close-up		
	<p>As the name suggests, it is a very specific part of the character's face.</p> <p>It is used to create an intense mood and draw attention to a specific part of the subject's face.</p>	
Over the shoulder shot		
	<p>This shot aims to be from the view of one of the characters, used in order to make the audience feel as if they are part of the scene.</p>	
		

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Ⓑ Client Brief

Client Information	
Contact	
Project	
Project Information	
Requirements and Restrictions	
Objective	
Target Audience	
Design Problem	
Key Dates	
Budget	
Additional Information	

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C Location Recce

Production title:

Crew:

Location:

Date of shoot:

Date of recce:

<p>Local condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any known problems? If yes, please detail (including source) 	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aid needed? If yes, please detail name, address and contact numbers for each person/organisation Permission needed? Protective clothing needed? If yes, please detail 	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Shots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate shots isolated? Any obstructions? Easy to reach and safe? 	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Power available? If no, please detail alternative arrangements Lighting appropriate? If no, please detail alternative arrangements Sound equipment 	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Anticipated problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picture People Other? 	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Other considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security considered Welfare considered (transport, food, first aid, etc.) Set dressing required Props required 		

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Location Details

Location address:

Contact name:

Telephone no.:

Emergency Services

Police: 999 (Emergency)

Hospital:

101 ext. (Local)

Power Problems

No. of power outlets:

Location of circuit breakers:

Lighting Details

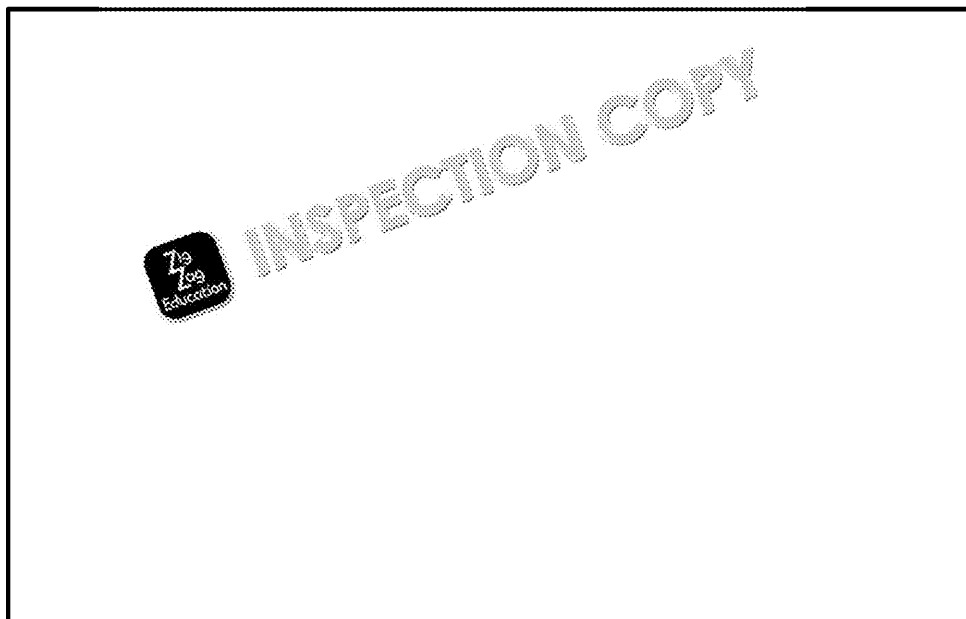
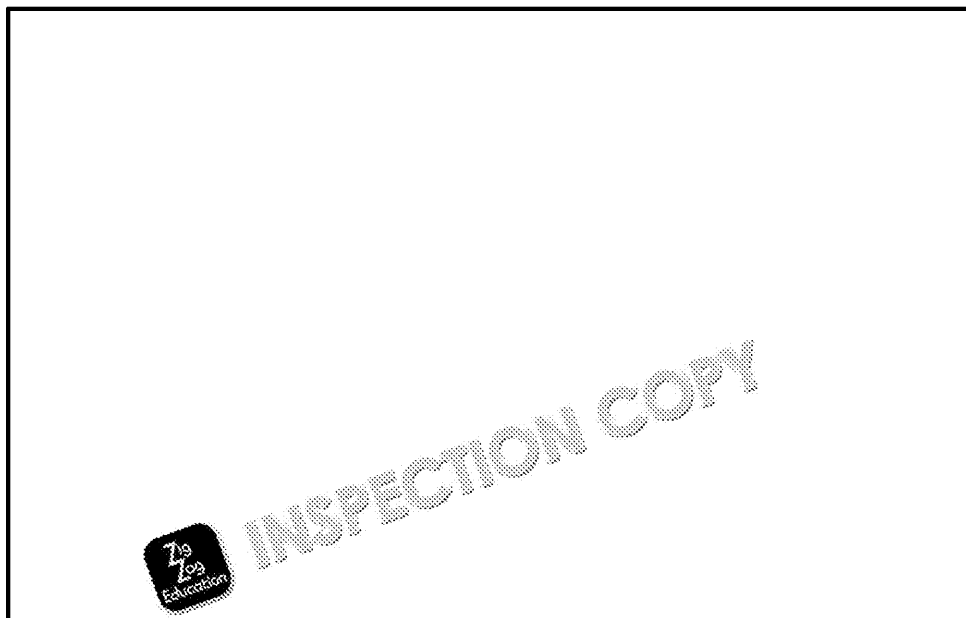
Existing light sources:

Additional light required:

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D Risk Assessment

Production title:

Date of shoot:

Location:

Date of risk assessment:

 Persons who may be harmed	Property which may be damaged
	

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