Component 2 Photography

Standard mark 39

Reflective
Predictable
Growing control
Broadening
Endeavour
Safe
Thoughtful

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Irving Penn

Irving Penn is an American photographer. He is best known for his book on photography titled "Last Year in America," but he also made significant contributions with his work on commercial design and editorial. He was a leading figure in the mid-20th century, known for his technical skills and his ability to create visually striking images.

The photographs in his book "Last Year in America" were taken in the early 1940s, during a period of social and political upheaval. Penn used his photography to comment on the effects of war and the impact of modern technology on society. His work continues to be celebrated for its technical excellence and its ability to capture the essence of his subjects.

In this assignment, you will be asked to choose a photograph from "Last Year in America" and analyze its composition, lighting, and use of space. You will also be asked to consider the historical context of the photograph and its relevance to contemporary issues.

The photographs in "Last Year in America" are known for their sharp focus and high contrast, as well as their use of shadow and light to create a sense of depth and dimension. Penn's use of color is also notable, with his photographs often featuring striking combinations of red, blue, and green.

In your analysis, you will be expected to discuss how these photographic techniques contribute to the overall impact of the image. You will also be asked to consider the photographer's intent and the message he intended to convey through his work.

Once you have chosen your photograph, you will be asked to write a short essay on your analysis. Your essay should be between 500 and 1000 words and should include an introduction, body, and conclusion. The introduction should provide a brief overview of the photograph and its historical context, while the body of your essay should focus on your analysis of the image. The conclusion should summarize your findings and reflect on the significance of the photograph in the context of Penn's body of work.

You will be assessed on your ability to analyze the photograph effectively, your knowledge of photographic techniques, and your ability to connect the photograph to broader themes and issues. Your essay should be well-organized, clearly written, and demonstrate a strong understanding of the subject.
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