

# GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY - KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER – ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

This is how you are marked for coursework and Exam.  
-60% of your GCSE mark is coursework and 40% is your exam mark.



**AO1**  
Develop ideas through investigations



**AO2**  
Refine work by exploring ideas and selecting and experimenting with appropriate techniques.

AO2 - Experimenting with a range of different materials and techniques.

- Photo-shoots exploring different techniques.
- Selecting best photographs from Photo-shoots.
- Using Photo-shop to edit photographs further in a creative way.
- Using Darkroom processes to create photograms/ cyanotypes/ Double exposures.

**AO1** EXPLORE  
**DEVELOP**  
**DEVELOP IDEAS**  
INVESTIGATE & RESEARCH OTHER ARTISTS WORK  
**ANALYSE**  
ANNOTATE

AO1 - Artist research pages.

- Visits to exhibitions and galleries.
- Your own responses in the style of the artist.
- Interviews with artists/ photographers.
- Annotate and analyse what you have found out.

**AO2** REVIEW  
**REFINE**  
**EXPERIMENT**  
EXPLORE DIFFERENT IDEAS AND MEDIA  
A RANGE OF TECHNIQUES & PROCESSES  
**SELECT**  
IMPROVE



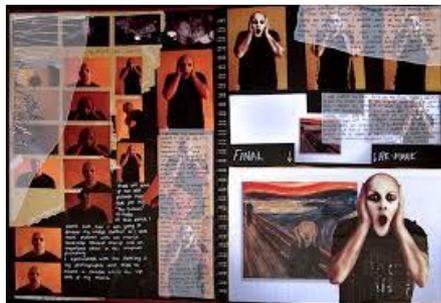
**AO3**  
Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms

AO3

- Title page.
- Mind Map.
- Mood-boards.
- Planning Photo-shoots.
- Photographs.
- Contact sheets of Photo-shoots.

**AO4**  
Present a personal, informed and meaningful response. Completing a relevant and intentional final piece.

**AO3** EVIDENCE  
**RECORD**  
**PRESENT IDEAS**  
PRIMARY OBSERVATION  
DRAWING, PAINTING, PRINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, WRITING, PHOTOGRAPHY...  
**ANNOTATE**  
DIFFERENT MEDIA

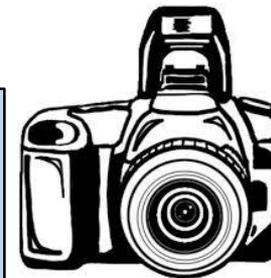


**AO4** OUTCOME  
**PRESENT**  
**FINAL IDEAS**  
DEVELOPED AS PLANNED  
CLEARLY RESPONDS TO ARTISTS EXPLORED  
**CONNECTION**  
CONCLUSION



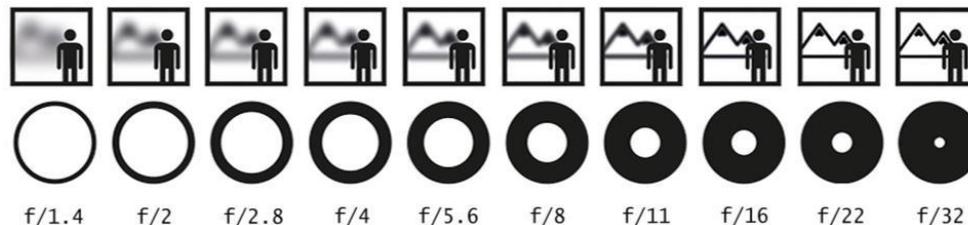
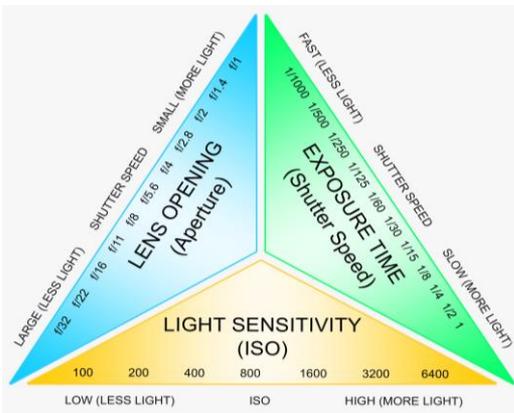
AO4 - Plans and drawings of final piece ideas.

- Mini mock-ups and experiments for final piece.
- Creating an original final piece, that is clearly inspired by your research and creative journey.
- Evaluation of final piece (how does your piece link to the project theme?).



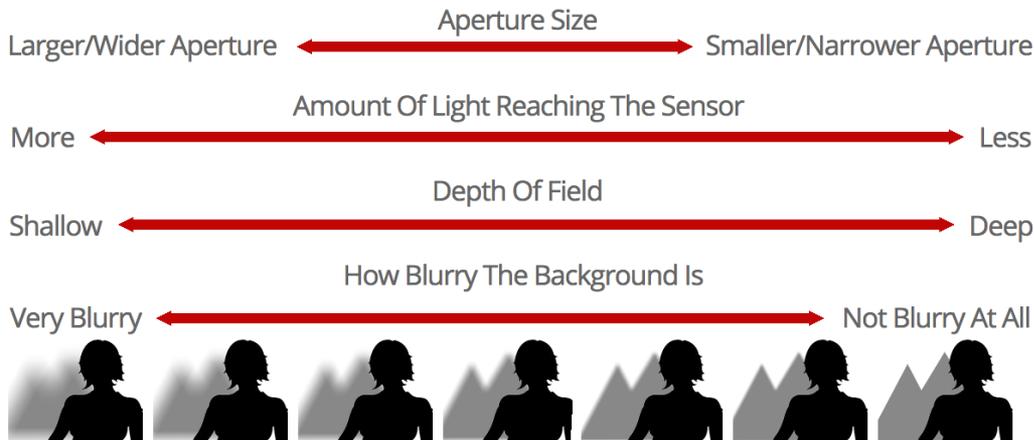
### Manual Camera Settings

- Gives you complete control of the camera. Can be accessed on a DSLR by selecting M.
- Involves the Exposure Triangle –Aperture / ISO/ Shutter Speed
- If one of the exposure triangle setting is changed it will affect the other two.
- For hints and tips on how to do a photo-shoot REFER to your student support booklet or Teams.

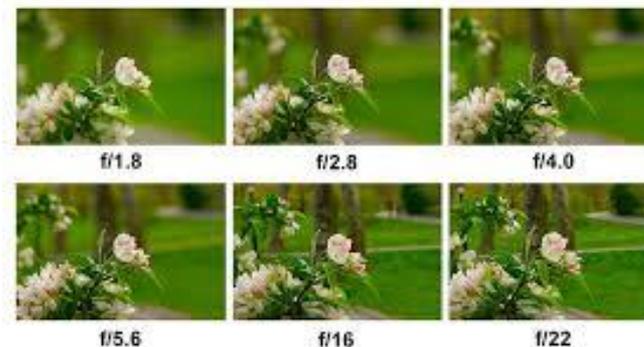


**Aperture:**

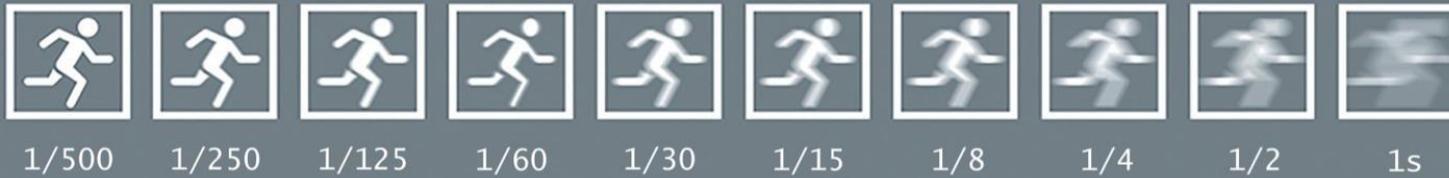
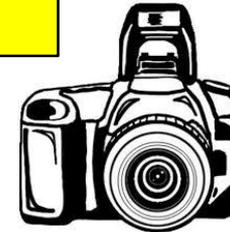
- How open or closed the lens is. (diaphragm)
- Allows light to pass through
- Often abbreviated as A or AV on a camera mode.
- To capture close up shots a wider lens is required.
- To capture detail in the distance a smaller lens setting is required.



Aperture Adjustment Sequence - DOF



SHUTTER SPEED



RECORDING MOVEMENT

TYPES OF SHOOTING



BIRDS IN FLIGHT 1/2000



ACTION SPORTS 1/500 - 1/1000



STREET PHOTOS 1/250 - 1/500



LANDSCAPES 1/125 - 1/4



PANNING CARS 1/15- 1/60

TYPES OF SHOOTING



WATERFALLS 1/8 - 2 sec



BLURRING WATER 0.5- 5 sec



FIREWORKS 2-4 sec



STARS 15 - 25 sec



STAR TRAILS 15 min and up

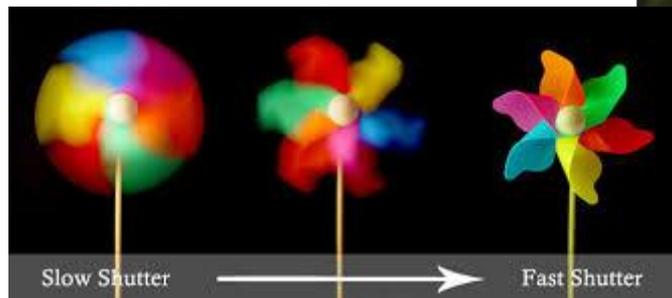
Shutter Speed:

- How quickly the shutter opens and closes.
- measurement of the time the **shutter** is open, shown in seconds or fractions of a second E.G. 1/4 s
- Used for action and movement shots.
- The slower the setting the more blurred the photograph.

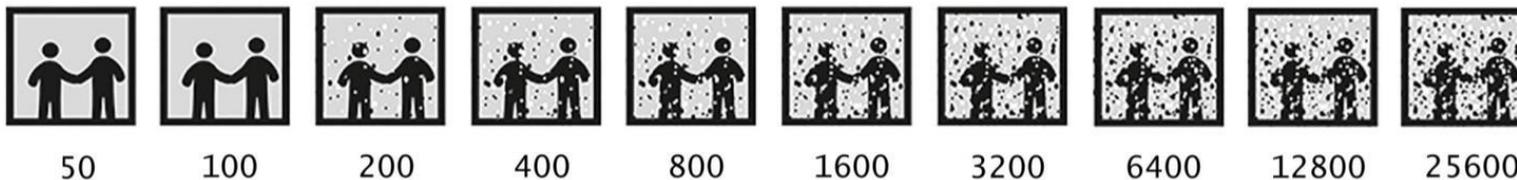
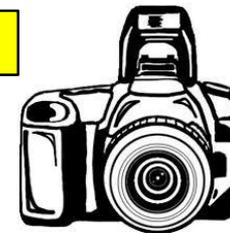
Change mode here



Shutter Speed 1/8 sec. Aperture F/13



Exposure



50

100

200

400

800

1600

3200

6400

12800

25600



**ISO:**

- How much light is let into the camera.
- This setting will brighten or darken a photograph.
- Can affect the photograph by making it grainy the higher the setting.
- You increase the number to make them brighter.

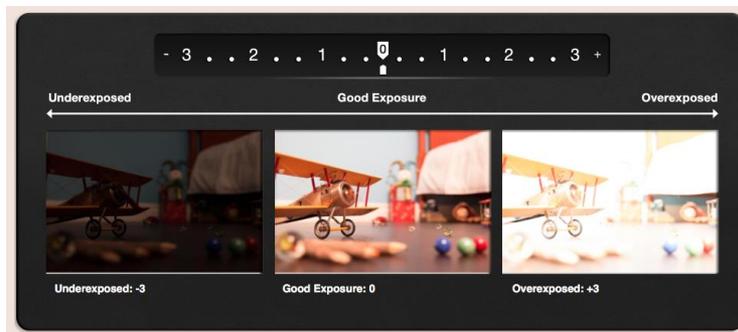
# ISO

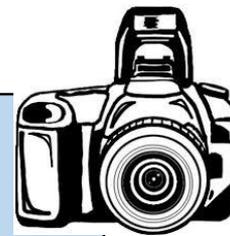
100	Full Sun, no shade
200	Lots of sun, could be in partial shade or an overcast day out in the open
200	Inside on a sunny day, directly by a large window
400	In the shade on a sunny day or under a covered area on an overcast day
700	Inside on a sunny or overcast day (near a window)
640-800	Sun is starting to set and less light
800	Inside, quite a distance from a window (sunny outside)
850-1000	Inside, quite a distance from a window (overcast day)
1250	Inside during the evening, light bulbs are the only source of light
1600	Inside a dark room where there is a light source (theatre, school production, etc)

Noise Warning



<b>ISO 100-200</b> Daylight	<b>ISO 200-400</b> Shade/Indoors
<b>ISO 400-800</b> Flash Indoors	<b>ISO 800-1600</b> Darker Indoors
<b>ISO 1600-3200</b> Indoors at Night	<b>ISO 3200+</b> Extra Low Light





## Compositional Elements

- Key things to consider when setting up a shot.
- Used to describe how a photograph works.
- Are not all used at the same time. However some can be more prominent than others in a photograph.
- Use one or more of these **elements** to create **composition** that works for your image.

### Pattern

There are patterns all around us if we only learn to see them. Emphasizing and highlighting these patterns can lead to striking shots – as can high lighting when patterns are broken.



### Symmetry

Can create a balanced composition that leaves the viewer with a feeling the photograph is staged in some way. Can add a striking effect depending on the subject/object photographed.



### Texture

Photographs of two dimensional objects yet with the clever use of 'texture' they can come alive and become almost three dimensional. You want the viewer to imagine how the object feels.



### Colour

A lot of colour can be overwhelming and considered a bold statement. Lack of colour can focus the viewer on the message the photographer is trying to convey. Lack of colour can also accentuate the patterns, shapes and textures in a photograph.



### Lines

**(Horizon line)** Lines can be powerful elements in an image. They have the power to draw the eye to key focal points in a shot and to impact the 'feel' of an image greatly.

Diagonal, Horizontal, Vertical and Converging lines all impact images differently and should be spotted while framing a shot and then utilized to strengthen it.



### Shape

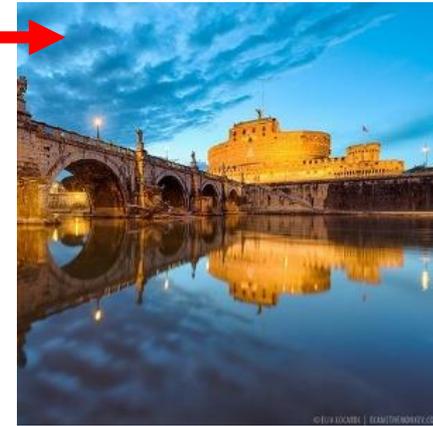
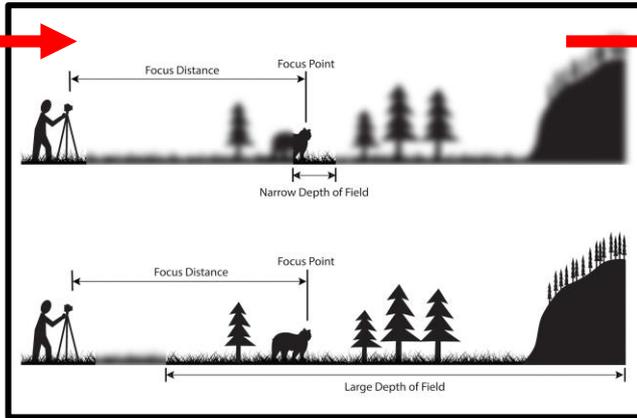
The way subjects connect to each other in a photo forms shapes that draw the eye from subject to subject. If your subject is already triangular or diamond-shaped (like a pyramid), the viewer's eye will automatically focus on that shape.





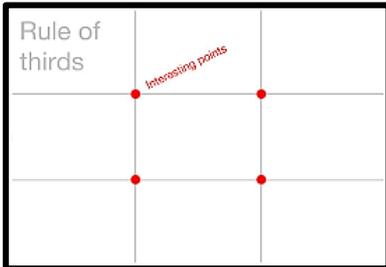
**Depth of Field**

The depth of field that you select when taking an image will drastically impact the composition of an image. It can isolate a subject from its background and foreground (when using a shallow depth of field) or it can put the same subject in context by revealing it's surrounds with a larger depth of field.



**Rule of Thirds**

A 3x3 grid used by photographers to create a composition that feels right. Objects that fall on or near the lines are considered to have the best impact.



**Viewpoint/ Perspective**

Birds-eye: From above facing downward  
 Worm's-eye: From below facing upward  
 Eye-line: At standing height  
 These perspectives can have an impact on how the viewer feels about the photograph, and how it is perceived.



**Focal Point**

The main focus of a photograph/artwork. There is usually a line/ shape/ space of some form leading to it.





### Restful/ Dynamic Composition

If there is space around an object in a composition then it is considered restful. Photographs that are zoomed in and objects touch the edges of the composition are considered dynamic. It dictates how much the viewer's eyes have to move around the photograph to see everything.



### Light

Can be used to create shadow or highlight an object/person. Comes in many different forms. Use of light can have an impact on camera settings. Direction of the light source is very important.

#### Natural Light



#### Artificial Light



#### Shadow Art by KumiYamashita



### Simplification

When light, depth of field, positioning of an object is used to make the viewer focus on a specific area of the photograph/artwork.



### Abstract

It is taking a subject and forcing the viewer to look at it in a different way. This may cause the subject to lose its original meaning or purpose. It may even render the subject unreal, abnormal and not of this world. The subject could lose all literal meaning and be reduced to only shape, light, texture or colour.



### Helpful Websites for GCSE Photography

- <https://digital-photography-school.com/digital-photography-tips-for-beginners/>
- <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zgwpnbk/revision/1>
- <https://www.tate.org.uk/>

### Photoshop

- Used to enhance and creatively edit digital photographs.
- Always take screenshots using the "Snipping Tool" to evidence what you have done while editing.
- Only use specific features and effects if there is a link to research. Not every Photograph needs to be edited.
- To find worksheets to the basic skills for using Photoshop go to:  
Teams / Files / Basic Photoshop Skills