

## Photography – A reading form

### Step 1: How to proceed when you are in front of a photo.

- You identify the type: black and white or colour.
- Then you look for the genre: landscape, portrait, animal, documentary, abstract, advertising, etc.
- Find out the title of the work and the date of its composition.
- Find the name of the author of the photograph.
- If you can, try to understand if it was taken with a film camera or a digital one.

### Step 2: Having collected these pieces of information, you begin observing the photo more closely fixing your attention on the following aspects.

- The subject of the photograph: a cityscape, a landscape, a seascape, a portrait, still life, a human figure, an animal, if it is abstract.
- The lights: where they come from, what they enlighten.
- The composition of the whole: objects, balance, place, etc.

### Step 3: Then you proceed with the stylistic analysis of the photograph.

- Lines: Do they define forms and depth of field (space)?
- Colour: is it black and white or colour? Does the type of colour convey a particular meaning?
- Light/Shade: do lights and shades define the main subject?

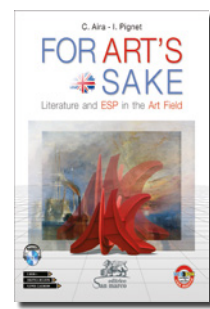
### Step 4: At this point you can say what message the author wanted to convey.

- Focus: importance of subject and lights.
- Scene: importance of elements and objects around the subject.
- Your evaluation: what does the image suggest to you? Do you feel involved? Does it attract your attention? Why?



Maksim Hetman, White, 2017





Look at the photograph and complete the table.

Identification	
Type	
Author	
Title	
Technique	
Size	
Observation	
Subject	
Light	
Composition	
Stylistic analysis	
Lines/Space	
Colour	
Light/Shade	
Your opinion	
Message	
Evaluation	