**Analyzing Photography**



The Great White Fleet, 1907, USS Kansas Leads the Way

**Level 1 – Basic Analysis**

1. *Who* or *what* do you see?
2. *When* was this photograph taken — what is happening in the photograph?
3. *Where* was this photograph taken?

**Level 2 – Intermediate Analysis**

1. Why did the photographer select these particular elements to include in the photograph?
2. What *don’t* you see?
3. Why did the photographer emphasize certain elements and not others? What’s in focus?
4. Is only one person or element in focus, or are many elements in focus?
5. Why did the photographer take the picture at this moment? What happened before or after this picture was taken?
6. Why did the photographer take the picture from this angle? What might the scene have looked like from another vantage point — from left, right, behind, above, or below?

**Level 3 – Deep Analysis**

1. What else do I need to know about this time period?
2. How could this picture depict the expansion of presidential power?
3. If I had to compare this picture to another, how would I do that?
4. Tell me about this photo…



Americans protesting the Iranian Hostage Crisis (1979)

**Level 1 – Basic Analysis**

1. *Who* or *what* do you see?
2. *When* was this photograph taken — what is happening in the photograph?
3. *Where* was this photograph taken?

**Level 2 – Intermediate Analysis**

1. Why did the photographer select these particular elements to include in the photograph?
2. What *don’t* you see?
3. Why did the photographer emphasize certain elements and not others? What’s in focus?
4. Is only one person or element in focus, or are many elements in focus?
5. Why did the photographer take the picture at this moment? What happened before or after this picture was taken?
6. Why did the photographer take the picture from this angle? What might the scene have looked like from another vantage point — from left, right, behind, above, or below?

**Level 3 – Deep Analysis**

1. What else do I need to know about this time period?
2. How could this picture depict the expansion of presidential power?
3. If I had to compare this picture to another, how would I do that?
4. Tell me about this photo…



Left: FDR, “The Banking Crisis,” Fireside Chats 1933 Right: 1934 Family Listens to Fireside Chats

**Level 1 – Basic Analysis**

1. *Who* or *what* do you see?
2. *When* was this photograph taken — what is happening in the photograph?
3. *Where* was this photograph taken?

**Level 2 – Intermediate Analysis**

1. Why did the photographer select these particular elements to include in the photograph?
2. What *don’t* you see?
3. Why did the photographer emphasize certain elements and not others? What’s in focus?
4. Is only one person or element in focus, or are many elements in focus?
5. Why did the photographer take the picture at this moment? What happened before or after this picture was taken?
6. Why did the photographer take the picture from this angle? What might the scene have looked like from another vantage point — from left, right, behind, above, or below?

**Level 3 – Deep Analysis**

1. What else do I need to know about this time period?
2. How could this picture depict the expansion of presidential power?
3. If I had to compare this picture to another, how would I do that?
4. Tell me about this photo…