

Taking action

Create a product/outcome in response to the goal, context and criteria

Week 1 - April 23rd 2015

Personal Project goal for this weekend: Photography element of colour balance and lighting.

This weekend at the Parap Markets I will take my first series of photographs and transfer my research of colour balance and lighting to my own photographs.

As per my goal I arrived at the Parap Markets at 7.30am as the stallholders were completing their set up. I ensured I had my research notes with me so I could apply these to my own photographs. I faced two main challenges while taking these photos.

Colour Balance

Challenge 1: The natural light was clouded by some dark clouds from 8am until 9am so I missed some valuable lighting time for accurate colour balance, however, I was able to compensate this by ensuring that I choose the subject matter of Chinese Goodluck Charms and the Lassi Stall, as these were not blocked by shadows and I could apply the research from 'Introduction to White Balance' by Darren Rowse to my product. I held up a white sheet of paper next to these two scenes, held the shutter half way down and then turned the lens to the scene and took the photo. This research enabled my two images that capture colour balance to show a "truer colour cast". By applying the photography element of colour balance to these photographs, I was able to capture aesthetically pleasing images that capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

Lighting

Challenge 2: As the natural lighting from the sun was clouded by dark clouds, I had to work extra hard to capture the best lighting. I wanted my lighting photos to capture the soft light that shines through the colour tarps above the Parap Markets stalls. To compensate for this I chose to apply my researched information from 'The Complete Beginners Guide to Natural Light' by Andrew Gibson by taking these two photos "from a long angle which reveals form and texture." By applying the photography element of lighting to these photographs, I was able to capture aesthetically pleasing images that capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

I am pleased with the results from this weekend's Personal Project progress, the photographs have effectively captured lighting and colour balance and are aesthetically pleasing. I have emailed my

supervisor Ms Teunissen to let her know that I have completed the first section of my Photography BlogSpot project.

Week 2 – April 30th 2015

This week I managed to catch the flu and ended up taking the Friday off school so I had planned to postpone taking my photographs this week. The timing of this flu was not so bad, as the Parap Markets were drowned out by a monsoonal downpour and ended up closing by 9am as the monsoon had set in for the afternoon.

Week 3 – May 7th 2015

Personal Project goal for this weekend: Photography element of composition and perspective.

This weekend at the Parap Markets I will take my second series of photographs and transfer my research of composition and perspectives to my own photographs.

As per my goal I arrived at the Parap Markets at 7.30am as the stallholders were completing their set up. I ensured I had my research notes with me so I could apply these to my own photographs. I only faced one main challenge while taking these photographs, today worked really well, my research was easy to apply to my photographs.

Perspective

Challenge 1: I struggled to find the correct place at the Parap Markets to demonstrate forced perspective without intruding on very busy stallholders. I ended up deciding to use my favourite mango smoothy cup and my sunglasses to demonstrate my research of forced perspective. I chose to incorporate both Steve McCurry's advice from the Vlog 'Nine Photo Composition Tips' with Jeff Meyers article '10 Rules for Photo Composition' to take these two images. I chose to use the natural lines of the silver bench and the edges of the table to natural frame these objects as per Steve McCurry's advice. I also incorporated Jeff Meyers advice to 'fill the frame' to give a more 'interesting take on things.' By applying the photography element of perspective to these photographs, I was able to capture aesthetically pleasing images that capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

Composition

When taking my photographs that capture composition effectively I transferred Jeff Meyer's advice in '10 Rules for Photo Composition' by simplifying the scene and using the rule of thirds. I chose to simply photograph simple scenes with aesthetically pleasing composition of focussing on just one stall with human movement. When taking my second photograph to capture composition I chose to apply the rule of

thirds and framing as recommended by both Steven McCurry on this Vlog and Jeff Meyer to effectively capture the composition of the Indonesian sweets stall. By applying this photography element of composition, I was able to capture aesthetically pleasing images that capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

I am pleased with the results from this weekend's Personal Project progress, the photographs have effectively captured composition and perspective and they are aesthetically pleasing. I have emailed my supervisor Ms Teunissen to let her know that I have completed the second section of my Photography BlogSpot project.

Week 4 – May 14th 2015

I have finalised the eight images I wish to publish on my Photography BlogSpot and have emailed these to Kirran Shah for feedback. I asked Kirran if I had achieved my goal of capturing aesthetically pleasing images that capture perspective, lighting, colour balance and composition that effectively capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

Kirran said I had achieved my goal in all but one image. My photograph capturing the Cambodian Pancake Stall has not captured the best possible colour balance as the colours are not fully saturated. I have gone back to the Parap Markets to retake this image and due to the sky being clear and the natural light not blocked by the dark clouds, I was able to retake the same image and achieve optimal colour balance.

Because I lost a weekend due to monsoonal rain and the flu I have decided to start my BlogSpot earlier. I managed to make the most of my Language and literature lessons this week and completed my Romeo and Juliet Creative Response so the homework that I had scheduled for this weekend is completed.

Today I created headings for all my photographs that are simple and descriptive. I have chosen to use adjectives that effectively capture the multicultural nature of the Parap Markets.

Colour balance

Image 1: Colourful Chinese good luck charms, Parap Markets.

Image 2: Bright pink straws make smoothies taste that much better, Parap Markets.

Lighting

Image 1: Local grocer sits beneath the shade of a colourful cloth, Parap Market

Image 2: Charming Cambodian Cupcakes, oops, ... pancakes, Parap Market

Perspective

Image 1: Smooth and silky raspberry smoothie, Parap Market.

Image 2: A large kit and caboodle of scrumptious noodles, Parap Market.

Composition

Image 1: Delicious Thaiicious laksa, Parap Market.

Image 2: Framed by tasty food, Parap Market.

Week 5 – May 21st 2015

Today I created my Photography BlogSpot. This took a total of 10 hours, as I needed to update my MacBook Pro to OS X Yosemite to use the add-ons necessary for WordPress. The process of creating a WordPress BlogSpot was very straightforward. By following the information presented by Andrew Gibson in the article 'How to create a Photography Website with WordPress' I was able to create this BlogSpot, upload my images with the correct headings in no time.

I had to creatively think of the best way to make sure my Photography BlogSpot was aesthetically pleasing and complimented by photographs. I chose to transfer Lauren Lim's advice from the article 'The Secrets of Successful Photography Blogging' and "be consistent in the layout of your blog", "go for quality over quantity" and "use descriptive and meaningful titles." I chose to use a simple Calibri font that has smooth lines and allows lots of white space. As I had already chosen to use just eight photographs, I was able to ensure I had quality images, over a large quantity of images with limited quality.

Once I was happy with my Photography BlogSpot I then self-assessed against my specifications and was pleased that I had managed to reach of my specifications:

- My Photography BlogSpot must have eight images that capture the colour and activity of the Parap Markets
- My photographs need to demonstrate my developing understanding and application of the photography elements of perspective, composition, colour balance and lighting
- My BlogSpot must be aesthetically pleasing and easy to view by having lots of white space surrounding the images
- My photography headings need to be simple and descriptive
- My Photography BlogSpot needs to reflect the colourful and multicultural characteristics of Darwin.

I then tweeted my BlogSpot to make it live and then emailed the url to Ms Teunissen for feedback. Ms Teunissen responded that afternoon with the following comment:

Well done Tate,

I can see you have worked really hard on this project and when I have looked at this WordPress site against your specifications I can see that you have reached your goal and effectively created your product.

Remember to show me your process journal on Monday and we can log your second supervisor contact on Coneqt.

Ms Teunissen.

Here is a final of my Photography BlogSpot:

Photography by Tate

Lighting



Local grocer sits beneath the shade of a colourful cloth, Parap Market.



Charming Cambodian cupcakes, oops ... pancakes, Parap Market.

Composition



Delicious Thai laksa, Parap Market.



Framed by tasty food, Parap Market.

Colour balance



Colourful Chinese good luck charms, Parap Market.



Bright pink straws make smoothies taste that much better, Parap Market.

Perspective



Smooth and silky raspberry smoothie, Parap Market.



A large kit and caboodle of scrumptious noodles, Parap Market.