**1-annotated shot example**

**Antoon Van Dyck**  
Antwerp 1599 – London 1641  
**The Children of Charles I of England**  
1638  
Oil on canvas

**The Painting**

*[Essential information on the scene depicted, including any historical, mythological, or religious anecdotes that may not be known to the viewer.]*This painting is a portrait of the three children of King Charles I Stuart of England.

**Who are the characters?**

*[More detailed description of the subjects, explaining who they are. Do not leave this information implicit.]*

* **Prince Charles**
  + He is 5 years old and will be the future **king**.
  + He pets a puppy.
  + He stands at the center on a decorated carpet and looks at the viewer.  
    This posture emphasizes the importance of his role.
* **Princess Mary**
  + Her feet rest on the same carpet, but she is closer to her brother James.
  + She has a somewhat **tired** expression, perhaps because posing was boring.
* **Prince James**
  + He is the youngest of the three siblings.
  + He stands on a step next to Mary.
  + He holds a **quince** in his hand.

**Some Meanings**

*[Explanation of the iconographic and/or iconological meanings of the subjects and other represented elements]*

* The dog is a symbol of **fidelity**.
* The quince represents **fertility** and **abundance**.
* The roses (on the carpet, on the ground, and outside the window) may be a reference to the **poetry** and **theater** of the time.

**Look at the Painting!**

*[Information about some stylistic details of the painter in relation to the work]*  
The painter was famous for the **realistic details** of clothing and fabrics:

* **Charles** wears a **red satin** gown, with embroidery and a lace collar.
* **Mary** wears a **pearl-gray** dress, with transparencies and light effects.
* **James** wears a **blue silk** gown, with transparent effects.

**Did you know…?**

*[Information about the role of the painting, its commission, or some curious anecdote related to the work]*

**What were portraits for?**

In the past, portraits were like **photographs**: they showed a person’s appearance at a distance.  
This painting was sent by Queen Henrietta of England to Christine of France, wife of Victor Amadeus I, Duke of Savoy, to show her the **appearance of her nephews**.

**A curious detail**

King Charles I was **angry** with Van Dyck: he had portrayed Prince Charles, the future king, as a child.  
The painter later created another, more regal portrait, today in the English Royal Collections.