

## 8a A life revealed

### Vocabulary photography

1 Read the quotations. Find the following:

- 3 words that mean *a photograph*
- 2 words for parts of a camera
- 3 verbs that describe what a camera does with an image

2 Which is your favourite quotation? Why?

### Reading

3 Work in pairs. Look at the two photos and discuss the questions. Then read the article and check your answers.

- 1 Have you seen either of these photos before?
- 2 Where are these people from?
- 3 How old are they?
- 4 What is the relationship between them?

'A picture is worth a thousand words.' - *Fred R. Barnard*

'What you have caught on film is captured forever ... it remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything.' - *Aaron Siskind*

'There is one thing the photograph must contain, the humanity of the moment.' - *Robert Frank*

'Look and think before opening the shutter. The heart and mind are the true lens of the camera.' - *Yousuf Karsh*

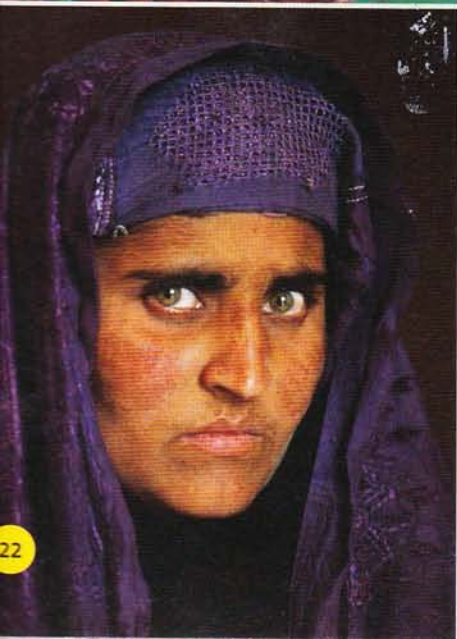
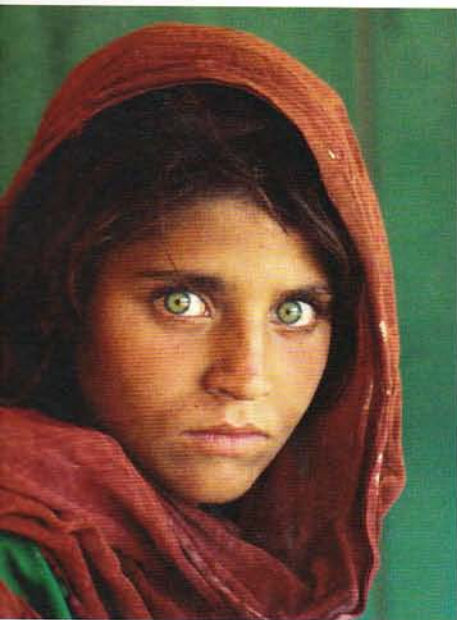
'I see no reason to record the obvious.' - *Edward Weston*

'A great photographer takes 100 shots and keeps just one.' - *Anon*

'Seeing and composing the beauty is what separates the snapshot from the photograph.' - *Matt Hardy*

4 Complete these sentences by finding the contrasting facts in the article.

- 1 Sharbat Gula let McCurry take her picture, even though ...
- 2 The picture became world famous, even though ...
- 3 McCurry recognised 29-year-old Gula immediately, even though ...
- 4 Gula does not complain about her life, even though ...



### A L I F E R E V E A L E D

She remembers the moment the photographer took her picture. The man was a stranger, but he asked if he could and she agreed to let him take it. She had never been photographed before and until they met a second time seventeen years later, she was not photographed again.

The photographer, Steve McCurry, remembers the moment too. It was 1984 and he was recording the lives of Afghan refugees in a camp in Pakistan. She was staring out of the school tent and he admits thinking at the time that the picture would be nothing special. Yet the 'Afghan girl', as the portrait is now known, became one of the most iconic images of our time. McCurry used her intense expression, so untypical of an average, carefree twelve-year-old girl, to warn us not to ignore the victims of war, especially its young victims.

In 2002 *National Geographic* persuaded McCurry to return to Pakistan to look for the girl. After showing her photo around the refugee camp, he found a man who had known her as a child and knew where to find her. He offered to fetch her from her home in the Tora Bora mountains and after three days returned with Sharbat Gula, a woman perhaps 29 years old. McCurry knew at once that this was her.

Time and hardship had erased her youth. Her skin was weathered. Yet her eyes still burned with the same intensity. Her brother explained the story of their lives, blaming the war for forcing them and many other Afghans out of their homeland. When Sharbat was six years old, they fled to the mountains, hiding in caves and begging people to give them food and blankets. She married when she was sixteen and now her time is occupied with bringing up her three children, cooking, cleaning and caring for them. Yet she does not complain about having a hard life. More amazingly, she is not aware of the impact that the photo of the young Sharbat with her sea-green eyes had on the world.

iconic (adj) /aɪˈkɒn,ɪk/ well-known and admired everywhere



## Grammar reporting verbs

- 5 Look back at the article and complete these sentences using reporting verbs. Note the form that follows the reporting verb in each case.
- 1 She **agreed** \_\_\_\_\_ him take her picture.
  - 2 He **admits** \_\_\_\_\_ at the time that the picture would be nothing special.
  - 3 McCurry used her intense expression to **warn** us \_\_\_\_\_ the victims of war.
  - 4 In 2002 *National Geographic* **persuaded** McCurry \_\_\_\_\_ to Pakistan.
  - 5 He **offered** \_\_\_\_\_ her from her home in the Tora Bora mountains.
  - 6 Her brother **blamed** the war \_\_\_\_\_ them out of their homeland.
  - 7 They **begged** people \_\_\_\_\_ them food and blankets.
  - 8 She does not **complain** \_\_\_\_\_ a hard life.
- 6 Work in pairs. What is being reported in Exercise 5? Discuss what the person actually said at the time. Then compare your answers with another pair.

- 1 She agreed to let him take her picture.

*Yes, you can take my picture.*

### REPORTING VERBS

#### Verb + to + infinitive

*She agreed to let him take her picture.*

#### Verb + sb + to + infinitive

*National Geographic persuaded McCurry to return to Pakistan.*

#### Verb + -ing

*He admits thinking at the time that the picture would be nothing special.*

#### Verb + preposition + -ing

*She does not complain about having a hard life.*

#### Verb + someone + preposition + -ing

*Her brother blamed war for forcing them out of their homeland.*

For further information and practice, see page 84.

- 7 Look at the grammar box. Use the verb given to report each of these statements.

- 1 You've taken some amazing photos!  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (complimented)
- 2 You should think seriously about doing this professionally.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (encouraged)
- 3 You are far too modest about your own talents.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (accused)
- 4 Why don't you go on a proper photography course?  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (suggested)

- 5 I'll also introduce you to my friend, who is a wildlife photographer.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (promised)
- 6 In fact, I'm sorry I haven't introduced you to him sooner.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (apologised)
- 7 Also you really should enter that photo competition in *National Geographic*.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (urge)
- 8 I can lend you my camera, if you don't think yours is good enough.  
She \_\_\_\_\_ . (offered)

- 8 Complete the article about the ethics of taking photos of other people. Put the verbs in the correct form. In some cases you will also need to put a preposition before the verb.

Photographers who take pictures without their subject's knowledge are accused <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) sneaky or even unethical. A photographer who takes a picture of someone in their living room at home with a telephoto lens cannot deny <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (do) wrong – they have invaded someone's privacy. Newspaper journalists are often criticised <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (do) this kind of thing – not that it stops them.

But is there a difference between this kind of photojournalism and taking a picture of a stranger without them knowing? This person hasn't invited you <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (take) their picture. Perhaps they would feel uncomfortable if you asked them <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (pose) for a shot; they might even refuse <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (let) you do it.

A lot of photographers insist <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) invisible so that the shots they get are more natural. They object <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) their subject for permission first because this would spoil 'the moment'. But I disagree. I always advise photographers <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) to their subjects first. In fact I strongly recommend <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (get) to know their subjects' story, because in that way the shots they get will have more meaning.

## Speaking

- 9 Work in small groups and discuss your experiences of taking photos of other people and of being photographed by others.
- 1 Do you like having your photo taken?  
Why? / Why not?
  - 2 What is the best way to get a good photo of someone?
  - 3 Do you ever take photos of people you don't know? How do you approach this?
  - 4 Have you ever felt uncomfortable about taking a photo of someone you didn't know?



## 8b And finally ...

### Vocabulary the feel-good factor

- 1 News programmes often like to end with a good news story. Look at the adjectives that describe how this type of story can make people feel and match each one to a definition.

amusing    appealing    charming    encouraging  
inspiring    optimistic    quirky

- 1 An \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ story makes you feel hopeful.
- 2 An \_\_\_\_\_ story makes you smile or laugh.
- 3 An \_\_\_\_\_ story shows you how much people can achieve.
- 4 A \_\_\_\_\_ story shows you how strange people or things can be.
- 5 An \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ story delights or pleases you.

#### ▶ WORDBUILDING forming adjectives from verbs

We can add *-ing* to many verbs to form adjectives.  
*amuse* → *amusing*, *encourage* → *encouraging*

For further information and practice, see Workbook page 111.

- 2 Work in pairs. Think of an example of a good news story you have heard recently. Tell your partner. Use one of the adjectives in Exercise 1.

*I saw a really inspiring local news story on TV about a five-year-old boy who raised money for his sick sister by cycling round the park near ...*

### Listening

- 3 2.8 Listen to four good news stories from the TV news and make notes. Compare your notes with two other students and fill in any missing details.
- 4 2.8 Listen again and complete these summaries.
- 1 People thought that the \_\_\_\_\_, but they were wrong because \_\_\_\_\_. As a result in the future we will see \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2 Researchers believe they have found \_\_\_\_\_. When people took \_\_\_\_\_, the result was that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3 The world's largest \_\_\_\_\_ say they have invented \_\_\_\_\_. But doctors say \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4 Costa Rica is \_\_\_\_\_ because it has \_\_\_\_\_. Countries like \_\_\_\_\_ on the other hand \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Work with a student from another group and retell the stories to each other. Which story did you find the most optimistic? Quirky? Inspiring?

### Grammar passive reporting verbs

- 6 Look at these two examples of passive reporting verbs from the listening passage and answer the questions.

*It was thought* that the large blue butterfly was extinct.

*It is estimated* that 20,000 large blue butterflies will be seen this summer.

- 1 What do/did people actually say or think?
- 2 When do/did they say or think this?

#### ▶ PASSIVE REPORTING VERBS

##### Typical reporting verbs

*say, think, believe, report, consider, know, estimate, expect, claim*

##### *It + is + passive reporting verb + that + sentence ...*

*It is thought that people eat more healthily these days.*  
(present report of present event)

*It is thought that people ate less healthily in the past.*  
(present report of past event)

*It is thought that people will eat more healthily in the future.*  
(present report of future event)

##### *It + was + passive reporting verb + that + sentence ...*

*It was thought that the butterfly was extinct.* (report and event at same time in past)

*It was thought that the butterfly had disappeared.* (past event before past report)

*It was thought that the butterfly would not return.* (past report of a future event)

For further information and practice, see page 85.





**7** Work in pairs. Look at the grammar box. Then look at the audioscript on page 91 and underline seven more sentences with passive reporting verbs. For each one decide:

- when the reporting happened
- when the reported event happened

### 8 Pronunciation weak forms in verbs

**a** **2.9** Look at these two sentences and underline the parts of the verbs (italicised) that you would expect to be stressed. Then listen and check. What rule can you make?

*It was said* that none of the previous studies *had given* a clear answer.

*It is believed* that 100,000 chocolate bars *have been sold* in the first week.

**b** Then practise saying these sentences with your partner.

- 1 *It was claimed* that they *had found* a cure for the common cold.
- 2 *It is known* that developed countries *have* a bigger ecological footprint.
- 3 *It was thought* that large blue butterflies *had disappeared* in the UK.
- 4 *It is known* that chocolate *doesn't act* as a health food.
- 5 In 2009 *it was estimated* that Denmark *had* the happiest citizens.

**9** Transform these sentences into passive reporting sentences using *it*.

- 1 People report: 'Large blue butterflies are everywhere now.'

Example:

*It is reported that large blue butterflies are everywhere now.*

- 2 30 years ago people said: 'The large blue butterfly is a common species.'
- 3 People said: 'Hunters caused the butterfly to die out.'
- 4 In the past people thought: 'Costa Rica is a poor country.'
- 5 Scientists claim: 'Taking zinc helps if you have a cold.'
- 6 They said: 'None of the previous experiments has been conclusive.'
- 7 Experts claimed: 'Eating the new chocolate will improve your health.'
- 8 But people know: 'Eating too much chocolate is actually bad for you.'

**10** Look at these other news items and facts and make sentences using the passive reporting verbs given. Tell your partner whether you think each one is true or not. Then check your answers on page 82.

- 1 It / believe / that chewing gum when you peel onions / prevent / you from crying.
- 2 It / say / Google's name originally / come / from 'Googol', meaning a number with 100 zeros.
- 3 It / know / that laughing regularly / increase / life expectancy by up to ten years.
- 4 In 2008 it / report / that air pollution in the US / fall / by 40 per cent since 1980.
- 5 It / claim / recently that scientists studying the Zebra fish / discover / a way for the human heart to heal itself.
- 6 In 2011 it / report / that a man whose house had been crushed by a huge rock in the New Zealand earthquake / sell / the rock for \$10,000.

## Writing and speaking

**11** Work in groups of three and prepare a good news story. Choose a theme of your own or one from the list below. Then write the story together, using at least two passive reporting verbs. When you have finished, practise reading it aloud. Then each person should join a new group of three and read their stories to the other students.

- a person rescued by an animal
- the discovery of a valuable painting or antique
- a ten-year-old child that has been compared to Shakespeare
- the invention of a new clothing fabric
- a couple who are celebrating their 90th wedding anniversary
- a dentist that people actually enjoy visiting

