

## Writing a Critical Review

The critical review is a writing task that asks you to summarize and evaluate. To be critical does not mean to criticize in a negative manner. Rather it requires you to question the visual information and present your evaluation or judgment. To do this well, you should attempt to understand the topic from different perspectives (i.e. looking at other photographers from the same time period).

The critique should be a balanced discussion and evaluation of the strengths, weakness and notable features of the images.

- Most important to least important conclusions you make about the images.
- For very short critical reviews (one page or less) where your comments will be briefer, include a paragraph of positive aspects and another of negative.
- You can also include recommendations for how the images could have been improved in terms of ideas; approach; or technique.

**Base your critical review on one of the exhibitions listed below:**

Picturing the Process: Exploring the Art and Science of Photography

Considering Edward Curtis: Recent Gifts to the Permanent Collection

Lou Stoumen: The Naked Truth

Edward Steichen: The Early Years

