

Understanding a Photo Essay

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What is a photo essay

- A photo essay is an essay that uses photography to convey a point. They usually have a minimal amount of text because the pictures often tell the story.
- Text is used to better explain the picture and give the reader a better understanding of the subject.



What are the benefits of a photo essay

- They are concise and easy to follow.
- The photos are often more impactful than the text.
- Photos tend to process easier than text.
- They are captivating and they induce emotion and understanding without the use of words.



What type of subjects do photo essays work best with

- World inhumanities.
- A day in the life
- Historical events
- Tragedies



How to make a photo essay

- First, see if you can find powerful images for your subject, as this is the most powerful part of the essay.
- Second, format the pictures by their importance.
- Third, describe each image with a suitable amount of text.
- Fourth, try to stay away from subject jumps. Photo essays should be clear and concise to follow.



Examples

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/08/nyregion/hostile-architecture-nyc.html>

<https://www.lansingchristianschool.org/adayinthelife/>

