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Essay#2

English (Prof. Scanlan)

September 27, 2017

Types Of Teas

A photo is an image created by light falling on a light-sensitive surface. To Compare and describe photos are important because it shows how the viewer interprets the photo. A description and comparison have two different characteristics. A description is spoken or written representation or account of a person, object, or event. A comparison is the representing of one thing or person as similar to or like another. Using terms like punctum, dominant impression, frame, and studium to further address a photo is important because the viewer will have a better understanding and interpretation on what the person is looking at in the photo. In my photo named *Green Tea* and *Grandma*, I will compare and describe factors that are comprised in the photo, like the kind of tea box and how many things are being consisted in the photo such as the tea itself, rug, and scarf. While I like both photos, they both have very special punctums, which are the scarf and rug.

The photo named *Green Tea* consist of, two tea boxes, a scarf, and a blanket. The tea is mint with green tea flavor. The companies name is BIGELOW; Americas classic. It has started manufacturing since 1946, “Family Tea Blenders Since 1946.” It is the company’s signature green blend gently kissed with mint, with healthy antioxidants, all natural. The box has a net weight of .91OZ (25g) of product. On the small print, it says, “Tea bags individually wrapped in foil pouches. Freshness stays in. Air and moister STAY OUT.” In the front of the sentence, a number cannot be read because of the excessive light being flashed at the box. The box has a color scheme of white, black, beige, mint, dark, and light green. The box has a symbol on the front of the box made of thick lines. The tea box next to it is the same but it is open showing the contents inside of the box. The color inside the box is white. The tea is inside the box, inside of the pouches having the same color scheme as the inside of the box. On the top of the box, there are words but they cannot be made out because they are too small to read. On the side of the box, it shows a picture of the tea in its pouch, also words that are again too small to read, it has pictures of cups on a background of a white color on the top of it saying “A steps to a great cup” being outlined with black dotting. The blanket in the photo consists of crisscrossing lines being thick, and thin, having a white color between the lines. The flower has many petals in a tear drop shape having a gradient color in each petal from dark brown, light brown , beige, and a little white on the top. Lastly, there is a pink scarf, having a pattern of crisscrossing lines with small gaps in the middle of it. The scarf seems to be scrunched into a circular shape, with three threads sticking out of the scarf.

In *Grandma*, picture it as well has two tea boxes that are both Lipton tea and a rug. The box that is closed has a picture of the tea in a clear teacup that is steamy with a green leaf at its side. The whole box is yellow with writing on it. In the middle, it says Lipton with a big white font, and a red background, around this is a white circle having two semi circles inside it. It also says America’s favorite tea, in the same style, without the white circle. There is a cutout in the shape if a leaf in the front of the box, behind it is a yellow foil. The writing on the top and bottom of the cut out, but is too small to read. It has a hundred tea bags with a NET WT 8 OZ (226g), to serve hot or iced. In the corner to the right of the box, it says that it has zero calories. On the two sides of the box one just has the Lipton logo on it and the other side has the Lipton logo ,Americas favorite tea, a hundred percent natural, serve ice or hot and lastly the picture of the tea in the tea cup. On the other box, it is the same as the first one but the only difference is that it is opened. On the lid of the inside, it has a yellow background with a light red color. In red font, it says “Same great taste, even better pack! America’s favorite is a –tasting tea, which deserves a pack to help preserve its taste and aroma. So welcome to our new sturdier, secure look box with wrapped stay fresh tea trays.” It says “By moving from individual paper wraps to wrapped stay fresh trays, we are reducing overall material usage which has a positive impact on the environment.” It has a coupon of seventy-five cents off, and three pictures of tea that they sell. It also says enjoy your free sample and discover our new uplifting teas. Inside the box, there are two trays, one is foiled and the other has no foil exposing the tea bags, the tray is white. The rug in the background has colors of blue, gray, and beige. It has patterns of lines going up and down, and a pattern of blue diamond shape in a line attached to each other. “On Photography” Suzan Sontag says “… a photograph can be treated as narrowly selective interpretation…” (Sontag, pg 531). When anyone or I look at a photo, they immediately see the photo, as they understand it.

Both *Green Tea* and *Grandma* contained tea in them, one was green tea and the other was Lipton tea. Both the photos also have a punctum, dominant impression, studium, and frame. A punctum is not public, something that no one has but I can see it in the photo. In the first photo being described, the punctum is the pink scarf. The scarf is personal to me, because my friend gave it to me as a gift before she went to her hometown in Colorado. She made it herself for me. This makes it my punctum because no one has this scarf, which is handmade. “Understanding a Photograph” John Berger says “. . . a result of the photographer’s decision that is it worth recording that this particular event or this particular object has been seen.”(Berger, pg.292). I agree with what Berger says because photographs are taken for a reason. For me I decided to take both *green tea* and *grandma* because I genuinely loved what I saw which was the tea and the positive feelings I felt toward it. In the other photo, the punctum is the rug because my grandmother brought it for me when she uses to live in Russia, she said, “These are your favorite colors so take my gift.” This is personal to me because my grandmother was thinking of me although we were so far away from each other, according to, “On Photography.” Suzan Sontag says, “The picture may distort; but there is always a presumption that something exists, or did exist, which is like what’s in the picture” (Sontag, pg531). I no longer have the rug, but I will always have it in the photo. Dominant impression is the feeling from the photo. My feelings when looking at both photos is very positive because I enjoy the taste of tea. Tea is my favorite thing to drink, because it makes he feel calm. The role of any rule of composition is to draw the eye into a photograph. Framing refers to using elements of a scene to create a frame within your frame**.** The frame is very organized, having everything place next to each other in an organized way. The frame is also small, what I mean by this is that there are only a couple of objects in the frame. The stadium is the public view, what everyone can see in the photo. In *green tea*, the stadium is the two tea boxes, the scarf and a blanket. In the photo *grandma,* the stadium is the two tea boxes, and the rug.

Photos are important because they have meaning and many details to it. Using terms help to analyze the photos, to get a better understanding of what is in it. In both *photos, green tea* and *grandma* havepunctum, dominant impression, frame, and stadium. All these terms help further explain the photos. From analyzing the photos, it helped me learn the true meaning of the photos rather than just looking at it without understanding what I am looking at.

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Cited work:

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