2 Describing Light

Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

1 What are the opposite of bright conditions?

2 What are brightness and darkness measured in?

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Understanding Light



Photography is harder than many people think it is. However, a good photographer needs skill and precision. Inexperienced photographers often do not understand how **light** affects their work.



Photographers must consider the **value** in their photographs. Too little light produces **dark** pictures. They might even be completely **black**. Too much light does not produce enough **contrast**. An extremely **bright** picture might not show enough detail. A clear, **sharp** picture requires the right balance of light and darkness.

Good photographers will adjust the amount of light in their pictures. **Translucent** materials limit the light without blocking it entirely. **Opaque** materials, on the other hand, produce complete **shade**.

Reading

2 Read the article. Then, complete the table.

Situation	Result
Too little light	1 _____
Too much light	2 _____
A balance of light and darkness	3 _____

Vocabulary

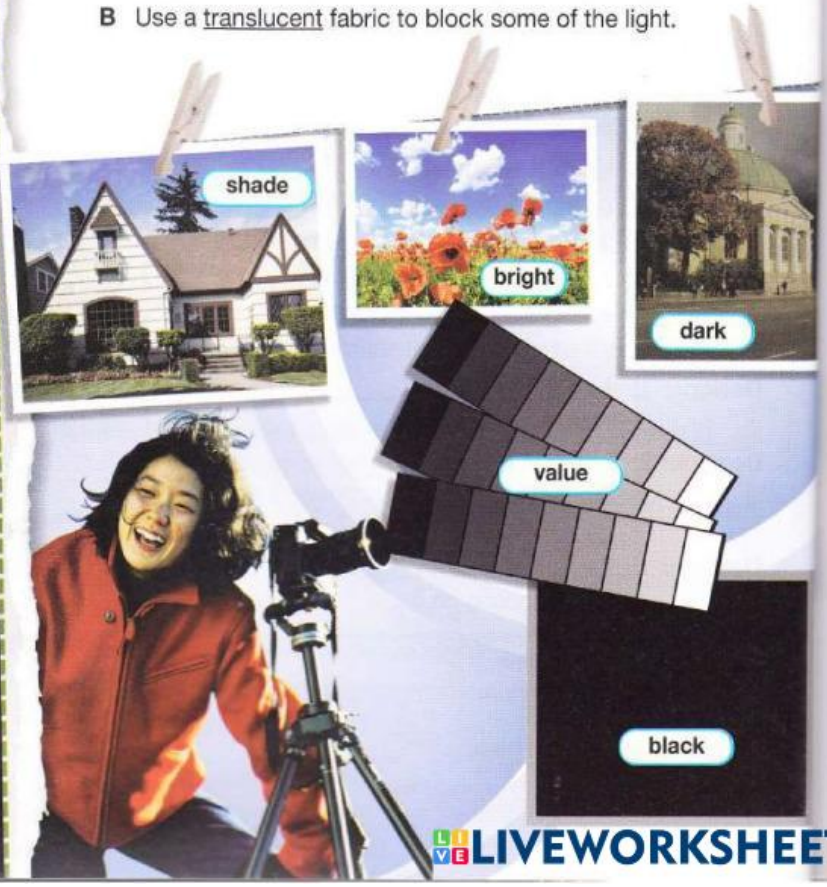
3 Choose the sentence that uses the underlined part correctly.

1 A The opaque curtain allowed some light to shine through.
B The details are not visible because the picture is totally black.

2 A The details are very clear in a sharp picture.
B The photographer's bright pictures don't have enough light.

3 A The photographer asked the group to step out of the shade and into the sunlight.
B The details are clearer in pictures with less contrast.

4 A The photographer added another lamp to make the picture dark.
B Use a translucent fabric to block some of the light.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 Read the sentences and choose the correct words.

1 Details are difficult to see in a **dark/sharp** room.
2 The **shade/value** is a measure of light or darkness.
3 If the window cover is **translucent/opaque**, it will not allow any light though.
4 The **light/contrast** measures the difference between brightness and darkness.
5 The room was **bright/black**, so everything was easy to see.
6 **Light/Shade** is produced by the sun.

5 Listen and read the article again. What must good photographers do?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between a newspaper editor and a photographer. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

1 __ The man's pictures are too bright.
2 __ The pictures show more detail than the woman wants.
3 __ The woman does not plan to print the pictures.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Editor: Hey, Paul. Are these your 1 _____ of the mayor?
Photographer: Yes, I took those yesterday. Why?
Editor: There's way 2 _____ _____ _____ in these pictures.
Photographer: Really? I was afraid they were going to be 3 _____ _____. That's why I added an extra lamp.
Editor: Here, take a look. Do you see how there's almost 4 _____ _____?
Photographer: Wow, you're right. You can 5 _____ _____ the details in his face.
Editor: We can't print these. They're just not 6 _____ _____.
Photographer: I'm really sorry. I'll be more careful next time.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

These pictures are too ...
I was afraid ... That's why ...
Do you see how ...?

Student A: You are a newspaper editor. Talk to Student B about:
- his or her photographs
- a problem with light
- the consequences of the problem

Student B: You are a photographer. Talk to Student A about a problem with light in your photographs.

Writing

9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to complete the job progress report.

Progress Report

Photographs for: _____

Are the photographs ready to print?

Yes ☐ / **No** ☐

Describe any problems encountered:

_____
_____
_____
_____



LIVEWORKSHEETS