

Name _____

Mastering Portrait Photography: Principles and Posing Techniques

Short Answer Key

1. Achieving a sharp focus on the subject's eyes is crucial in portrait photography because the eyes are often the focal point of the portrait. Sharp focus on the eyes ensures that they are clear, expressive, and convey emotions effectively. Blurry or unfocused eyes can detract from the overall impact of the portrait as they are a central element that viewers connect with.
2. Three posing techniques to capture unique and engaging portrait shots include:
 - Experimenting with different angles and perspectives to create variety.
 - Encouraging natural and relaxed poses to capture genuine expressions.
 - Using props that complement the subject or enhance the overall theme while ensuring they do not overpower the subject.
3. Establishing rapport and making subjects feel comfortable during a portrait shoot is essential because it helps them relax and be themselves. When subjects are at ease, they are more likely to express genuine emotions and convey their true personality in the photographs. This, in turn, contributes to the quality of the photos by ensuring that the expressions and poses captured are authentic and meaningful.
4. Facial expressions in portrait photography play a crucial role in conveying personality and mood. They allow the subject's emotions and character to shine through the photograph. A warm smile can portray happiness and approachability, while a thoughtful gaze can convey introspection or depth. By guiding subjects to express genuine emotions through their facial expressions, photographers can capture portraits that tell a compelling story.
5. One "do" in portrait photography when it comes to posing subjects is to encourage natural and relaxed poses. This allows subjects to appear comfortable and genuine in the photographs. One "don't" is to over-pose subjects with unnatural positions, as this can make them appear stiff and uncomfortable, resulting in less appealing portraits.

