

## Present a humanist photograph

Find an image that you like from the school of humanist photography. There are many names to explore online. Try Googling any of the following:

Diane Arbus

Lewis Hine

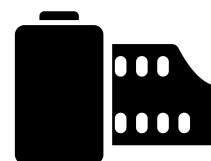
Henri Cartier-Bresson

Robert Doisneau

Helen Levitt

Mary Ellen Mark

Sebastião Salgado



Once you have found an image, prepare to present it. Think carefully about what you are going to say. Here are five things to remember:

### **i. Take your time and let the story develop**

Spend time looking at the image and thinking about it. The more you do this, the more details you will notice. Become aware of the questions that you ask about the people in the picture. Also become aware of the imaginary stories that you create about them. Remember that there are always different ways to interpret an image. There is no correct answer.

### **ii. Focus on the people**

You will have to talk about some basic compositional aspects of the image. But you don't have to give too much detail. It is more important to focus on the people in the picture.

### **iii. Avoid too much information**

You don't have to describe everything that you see. Some things in the image will not be important. For example, in his video, Jamie chose not to mention the car in the background of the photograph. Perhaps he felt that it was not important to the story.

### **iv. Make connections**

Become aware of the personal connections you make with the image and the people in it. Why do you like it? Why did you choose it? Perhaps it reminds you of someone you know or a personal experience you have had.

### **v. Borrow from Jamie's script**

On the next page, you will find Jamie's picture-telling script. Read it carefully and underline any words, phrases and sentences that you would like to use in your own presentation.

## Jamie's picture-telling script

This is a photograph of a little boy and his new world  
He's only about three or four years old  
And he is in a state of delight

The photograph was taken in 1934  
It's a street scene somewhere in Paris  
And the little boy is standing on the pavement

He is actually quite far away from us which is unusual  
Because you would normally expect the subject of a photograph to fill the frame  
But not in this case  
And this has the effect of drawing attention to his size – he's very small  
But more importantly, it draws attention to his environment  
All the space around him  
His new world with so much to discover

So what has he just discovered?  
Well he's standing near the edge of the pavement  
And he's looking down at the gutter  
Because flowing through the gutter is a little stream of water

We can't actually see where the water's coming from – it's not raining  
Perhaps someone's been washing windows  
And they've just emptied the bucket of water into the gutter  
And now it's flowing past the little boy  
And he's leaning forward to have a good look  
His arms are straight by his side  
And he's watching the water flow past  
With big surprised eyes  
And his mouth open in amazement

He's all alone  
There's no one else in the photograph  
Perhaps his parents are close by  
But we can't see them  
It's just the little boy and his new world

Unfortunately, that world would soon change  
Because in Germany that very same year, a certain party was democratically elected into power  
And five years later, the world would descend into the most brutal war it has ever seen

I wonder how this little boy's life was affected

Scan this code to  
see the video

