If completed on a computer, please use ALL CAPS for your answers:

A**. Summarizing the Visual Text**:

Begin with essential available information such as who is the photographer, and if found on the web the date and where it appeared.

Photographer:

Date found:

(if from the web or print) Place found:

B. **Annotate (take notes about) the photograph** to explore its purpose and effect. Try to determine how the elements of the visual text work together to create meaning. These questions will provide a useful starting place:

1. What first strikes you about the photograph?
2. What specific elements do you notice immediately?

3. Who or what is the main subject of the photograph?

4. What colors and textures dominate?

5. What air temperature, sounds and smells do you imagine are part of this scene?

6.How are the elements of the photograph arranged?

a. What is in the background?

b. In the foreground?

c. Does the composition (arrangement of elements) seem natural or staged?

7. What questions does the photograph raise for you?

8.What does this photo remind you of in your own experience?

9. What storyline does the photograph suggest/imply to you? This might be like the sentence or two that describes/summarizes the idea of a movie.

**C. Analyzing the meaning of a Visual Text**

The following questions will help you analyze the photograph’s purpose and meaning:

1. What surprises, perplexes, or intrigues you about the photograph?

2. What clues suggest the photograph’s intended audience?

a. How might the photograph appeal to that audience?

1. How do design elements—colors, shapes, perspective, focus, background, foreground—determine the photograph’s meaning or serve its purpose?

Finally, compose a thesis statement (topic/subject and position) that the combination of visual details suggests to you.