

UNIT 3

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. Her show of confidence was so convincing that no one could guess that the artwork she was selling was completely _____.
 a. fake
 b. intimate
 c. ambiguous

2. A(n) _____ from the art gallery was damaged when a visitor clumsily bumped into it.
 a. imply
 b. trigger
 c. exhibit

3. During the negotiation, they never said directly that they were willing to lower the price of the painting, but they _____ that they would consider accepting less money.
 a. implied
 b. triggered
 c. envisioned

4. The food at this restaurant is _____. It is not surprising that there is a 6-month wait just to get a table.
 a. analytical
 b. exquisite
 c. ambiguous

5. She's a really interesting person. She left quite a(n) _____.
 a. interpretation
 b. conservation
 c. impression

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Write each word next to its correct synonym or definition.

ambiguous	analytical	foremost	intimate	ongoing
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6. _____ close, or deeply personal
7. _____ still happening
8. _____ vague or unclear
9. _____ logical and scientific when trying to understand something
10. _____ leading; primary; principal

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

allergies	investigation	need
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11. The high pollen count triggered _____ in people more than in previous years.
12. The increase in the number of visitors to the museum triggered the _____ for barriers to stop people getting too close to the exhibits.
13. The fire in the museum warehouse, which destroyed millions of dollars' worth of art, triggered a(n) _____ by the insurance company.

ambiguous	ambivalent	ambivert
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14. The meaning of the ancient text was highly _____, leaving scholars with various possible interpretations.
15. As an _____, Mark is as comfortable doing things by himself as he is attending large social functions.
16. Sarah felt _____ about the job offer, which promised to pay well but which also required her to move to a new city.

Read the passage.**Making an Impact Through Art**

Art has the power to inspire and effect change, as evidenced by these examples.

Art for Conservation

- A** Stare into the eyes of *The Watcher*, British artist Sophie Green's portrait of an African wild dog, and you'll see there's something reflected. A triangular outline of a distant mountain perhaps, or maybe a termite mound on the savanna. Something the animal is looking at, in any case, that draws and locks your own gaze. And by the time it does, you realize that the animal is actually now looking at you.
- B** The effect is striking: a strangely intimate moment with one of the planet's most beleaguered mammals emerging from the shadows. But of course, it's not really an animal; just a very realistic painting of one.
- C** "That's always been my aim," says Green. "I want my artwork to be a window into another ecosystem. So people can feel they're face to face with the animal, rather than looking through a lens or at just another picture. Most people don't get that experience unless they go on a safari or an expedition. I kind of want my artwork to be that experience for them."
- D** Green's 14-piece exhibition—entitled *Impermanence: The Art of Conservation*—was initially envisioned to feature only polar animals, but Green says she quickly realized she was painting herself into a corner—conservation issues, human encroachment, and climate change affect animals all over the world, so she started to branch out. Hence images of balletic humpbacks, a great white shark, penguins, an African lion—and that African wild dog, amongst others.
- E** Green claims her art is not rooted in creativity. "I'm quite detail-focused, it's just my personality type. I would say I'm more analytical. I prefer something to be exact and precise."
- F** She says she paints in acrylic and adds that it's an unusual medium in hyper-realism. "It dries very quickly, but weirdly I prefer that," she says. "The way I build depth is with layer after layer after layer, and I do it quickly. It creates more of a depth perception."
- G** This lends itself to the hyper-real quality of her exhibits. "In watercolor, you work light to dark; you work dark to light in oil and acrylic. It's less a physical thing, more of a light perception. Light value on top of dark values kind of gives the impression of being in three dimensions."
- H** Green adds that hope is an embedded theme in her collections and is also the source of her collection's ambiguous title.
- I** "The name *impermanence* is open to interpretation—it kind of implies the impermanence of certain species and ecosystems," she says. "But it could also represent the impermanence of our problems. There's a dark side, but there can also be a light side."

Art as Activism

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- J** It started as a countercultural art movement in 2001. After years studying at the Academy of Fine Arts, Kinshasa—following teachers’ advice on creating work with “proper” materials, such as resin and plaster of Paris—some students in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) decided to do something different. They created art with what was in their immediate environment, including tires, exhaust pipes, foam, plastic bottles, antennas, tins that had held milk or paint, feathers, CDs, rubber slippers, and other discarded items.
- K** This work, the artists believed, felt familiar to a Congolese audience and spoke to a particularly egregious aspect of Congolese life: waste. Waste generated locally by citizens. Waste dumped in the country by hyper-consumerist nations. Waste triggered by the endless extraction of resources from the DRC’s earth, or the rapacious collection of the same above land.
- L** In Kinshasa, gutters are brimming with nonrecyclable plastic bottles. Markets are awash with second- and third-hand goods, castoffs from high-income countries. In areas where international companies mine for cobalt—a precious component of smartphone batteries—frequent discharges contaminate river systems and surrounding life. By repurposing waste to create sculpture and performance art, the artists wanted to dial up the public’s acuity toward an ongoing emergency. Waste also provided the artists with an opening to comment on other fraught sociopolitical issues.
- M** *Robot Annonce*, for example, is a wearable sculpture by Jared Kalenga made of broken radio parts. It seeks to raise awareness about the ever-spreading reach of fake news. Precy Numbi’s figure made out of automobile parts is a way of protesting the millions of “garbage cars” imported into Africa every year—secondhand vehicles that discourage the growth of the continent’s own auto industry. And *Femme Électrique*, Falonne Mambu’s creation made of electric wires, is double-edged. It speaks to the paucity of electric power service in the DRC and, simultaneously, what goes on in the dark: assaults and kidnappings. Mambu’s inspiration for the work was drawn from periods in her life when she was homeless.
- N** These socially conscious creators who turn refuse into protest art “are out here pushing limits,” says Yvon Edoumou, founder of the Galerie Malabo in Kinshasa. “We don’t see a lot of that.”

Choose the correct answers.

17. According to Sophie Green, what is the main goal of her artwork?
- to capture images of endangered animals before they disappear
 - to allow people to feel close to the species in her pictures
 - to show people what a safari really looks like
18. Sophie Green uses acrylic paint for her work because she thinks _____.
- it doesn’t dry out as quickly as watercolor paint
 - her paintings look less flat
 - she can add depth by working from light to dark

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19. What environmental issue is NOT mentioned as inspiration for the art sculptures in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)?
- resource extraction
 - waste pollution
 - wildlife conservation
20. In paragraph L, the phrase *dial up* is closest in meaning to _____.
- intensify
 - expand
 - connect
21. What societal issue does *Robot Annonce* by Jared Kalenga seek to raise awareness of?
- Waste produced by the robotics industry.
 - The explosion in fake news in the digital age.
 - The importance of recycling and waste reduction in high income countries.

Read the passage.**Is it Art?**

- A** According to the dictionary, art is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. But if something is not created “primarily” to be appreciated for its beauty, does that mean that it cannot be considered a work of art? The idea that art must solely serve visual or emotional purposes is challenged by a diverse range of artistic forms that we see in the world around us.
- B** The earliest known examples of human creativity can be found in prehistoric sites. Dating back tens of thousands of years, the first human-made images can be found in various regions around the world. From the cave paintings of France and Spain to the ancient rock art of Namibia and the dot paintings of the First Nation Aboriginal peoples in Australia, early people everywhere left their mark in the form of some kind of art.
- C** These primitive artworks, often showing animals and hunting scenes, provide a glimpse into the minds of our distant ancestors. While their exact motivations remain unknown, these paintings likely served a range of purposes. They might have been attempts to communicate hunting strategies, to call up spiritual forces to aid in their hunts, or to record significant events in the lives of these early societies. The paintings were therefore more than just aesthetic expressions; they were functional storytelling tools and a means of preserving vital knowledge.
- D** Even though the primary intention behind these works—made by the fingers of people who lived more than 50,000 years ago—might not have been beauty, they undeniably possess artistic qualities thanks to the skillful ways they were created, the use of multiple colors, and the abstract patterns they contain. The level of detail, and the attention to form and color, go way beyond pure practicality.

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- E** Architecture is another area in which art can be interwoven with practicality. Numerous architectural marvels, such as the Taj Mahal, the Sydney Opera House, and the Guggenheim Museum, showcase the blending of artistic vision and functional design. These structures capture human creativity and imagination in their forms, materials, and spatial arrangements. Their purpose is not just to shelter or serve functional needs; they trigger feelings of awe and reflect cultural ideologies.
- F** Take, for instance, the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, a masterpiece designed by Antoni Gaudí. Outside, visitors to the church are amazed by its tall towers, and its walls covered in detailed carvings of trees, flowers, pinecones, and acorns. Built with few straight lines and no right angles, the organic forms almost seem more natural than man-made. But that is nothing compared to the sight that awaits on the inside. The play of light through giant stained-glass windows means that its inside walls are literally painted with light from the sun—a giant canvas that changes color with the time of day.
- G** Fashion is often dismissed as not being serious enough to be considered a legitimate art form. This could be because it is seen as a female pursuit, or because it is so directly associated with commerce. But, like all great art, fashion is a living commentary on the culture of its time. It allows anyone to express their vision of themselves to the people around them.
- H** Avant-garde fashion in particular pushes the boundaries of conventional clothing, focusing on innovation, experimentation, and expression rather than mass appeal or wearability. Take the works of designers like Alexander McQueen and Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons, whose exquisite creations often border on fantasy. These pieces may not be suitable for everyday wear like the mass-produced uniforms of fast fashion, but they serve as vehicles for artistic expression, embodying complex concepts and emotions.
- I** Avant-garde fashion challenges preconceptions about what constitutes clothing, turning the human body into a canvas for bold statements. And whether that art lasts for one season or tens of thousands of years, it is still worthy of appreciation, just like any painting by Leonardo da Vinci or statue by Michelangelo.
- J** The concept of art is wide open to interpretation. It cannot be confined to a narrow definition rooted only in beauty and emotional resonance. History has shown that art's scope is much broader. From cave paintings that bridged utility and expression to architectural wonders that merge function and beauty and avant-garde fashion that disrupts norms, artistic expression takes many forms that challenge the boundaries of what we consider to be art. Art's essence lies not only in the intentions of the creator; it resides in the infinite imagination and creativity of its viewers.

Choose the correct answers.

22. What is the main idea of this passage?
- Only things which can trigger emotion should be considered art.
 - Art is primarily a measure of how beautiful something is.
 - Art can make a difference in the world.

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23. According to the passage, what characteristic of prehistoric cave paintings contributes to their artistic quality?
 - a. Their use of color and abstract shapes.
 - b. The variety of designs seen in different cultures.
 - c. Their focus on detailed depictions of animals.
24. In the second last sentence of paragraph F, the word *play* is closest in meaning to _____?
 - a. participation
 - b. entertainment
 - c. movement
25. In the context of the passage, the term "avant-garde fashion" refers to fashion that is _____.
 - a. created by well-established designers
 - b. suitable for daily wear
 - c. experimental and unconventional
26. What is NOT mentioned as a reason that fashion isn't taken more seriously?
 - a. The purpose of fashion is usually to make money.
 - b. Anyone can wear fashionable clothes.
 - c. Fashion tends to be geared towards women.
27. In a concept map of this passage, what would be the best title for the box with the note "attention to form and color"?
 - a. prehistoric art
 - b. architecture
 - c. fashion
28. Which of these would be a good subtopic under the box of a concept map entitled "Architecture"?
 - a. Artistic Vision
 - b. Storytelling Tool
 - c. Experimentation

Rewrite each sentence with a relative clause by correcting the mistake(s).

29. The palette which refers to a selection of colors in a photo sets up the mood of the image.

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30. The artist, that has inspired me the most, is Vincent van Gogh.

31. Brian Yen, whose lives in Hong Kong, won a photography competition.

32. The sculptor, who I met while he was still at art school, has become famous for showing his work online.

33. The paintings drawn, when he was in his blue period, are the ones that sell for the highest price.

34. The MacCallum Gallery, where is located in the heart of the city, is free for anyone to enter.

Read the thesis statement for an essay. Decide if each sentence supports the thesis statement or not. Choose *Yes* or *No*.

"All foods should be grown organically—without chemical fertilizers or pesticides."

35. Organically grown fruits and vegetables taste fresher and are more nourishing.

- a. Yes
- b. No

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36. Canned or frozen fruits and vegetables are just as healthy as fresh fruits and vegetables.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
37. Chemical fertilizers and pesticides can harm the health of the farm workers who apply them to crops.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
38. Foods grown with chemical fertilizers and pesticides can be harvested more quickly than those grown with natural fertilizers and pesticides.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
39. Eating foods grown with chemical fertilizers and pesticides may harm the health of consumers.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Read each sentence. Decide if the sentence could be used as the topic sentence for a body paragraph. Choose *Yes* or *No*.

40. Social media adversely affects how we communicate with others, our ability to focus on difficult tasks, and our sense of self worth.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
41. Advancements in artificial intelligence will make it harder for artists to make a living from their art.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
42. As I have demonstrated, deforestation is extremely bad for the environment.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

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43. Graphic novels have never been as popular as they are now, but what makes these written and illustrated works so special?

- a. Yes
- b. No

44. Traveling helps people better appreciate different cultures.

- a. Yes
- b. No

You are going to write an essay on the following topic.

45. **Write about one of these two topics.**

Topic 1: Write an essay about a photograph you love. It can be a photograph of you, a photograph that you took, or a famous photograph. Describe how it makes you feel.

Topic 2: These days, almost everyone takes pictures of food to post on social media. Decide on three criteria for taking a good food photograph and use those criteria to judge a food picture you have seen or have taken yourself.

A. OUTLINE Plan an outline for your essay.

Think of the type of criteria you could use to evaluate the piece of art.

Write notes for your introduction and the thesis statement.

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Write the topic sentences for your three body paragraphs.

B. Think of some words and phrases you can use in your essay. Write them in the box.

The words and phrases below can be useful when evaluating a piece of art.

- *impression*
- *interpretation*
- *intimate*
- *ambiguous*
- *exquisite*

C. Write your essay based on your outline. Use the model to help you. Remember to use the vocabulary you wrote down.

Model:

I am not particularly interested in art or photography, but there is one photograph that left a very strong impression on me. It is "Afghan Girl," taken by the photographer Steve McCurry. It really made me aware of the shared human experience despite cultural differences. This photograph not only reflects the beauty of its subject but also triggers a strong feeling that people are essentially the same across the globe.

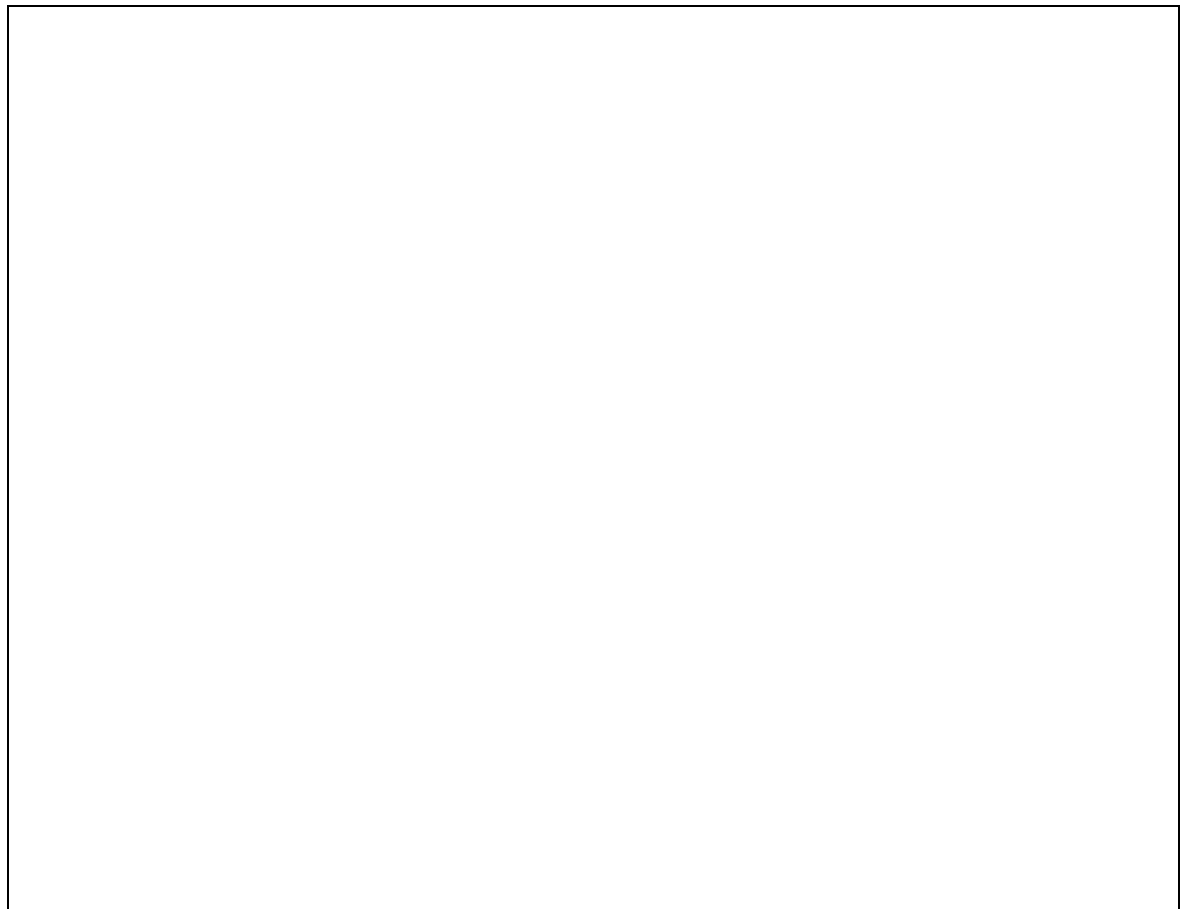
The photograph "Afghan Girl" was taken in 1984, right in the middle of the ten-year Soviet-Afghan war. The girl, Sharbat Gula, was a 12-year-old Pashtun girl living in a refugee camp in Pakistan at the time. The photograph was used on the cover of the National Geographic magazine's June 1985 edition, which helped make it one of the most famous photographs of all time.

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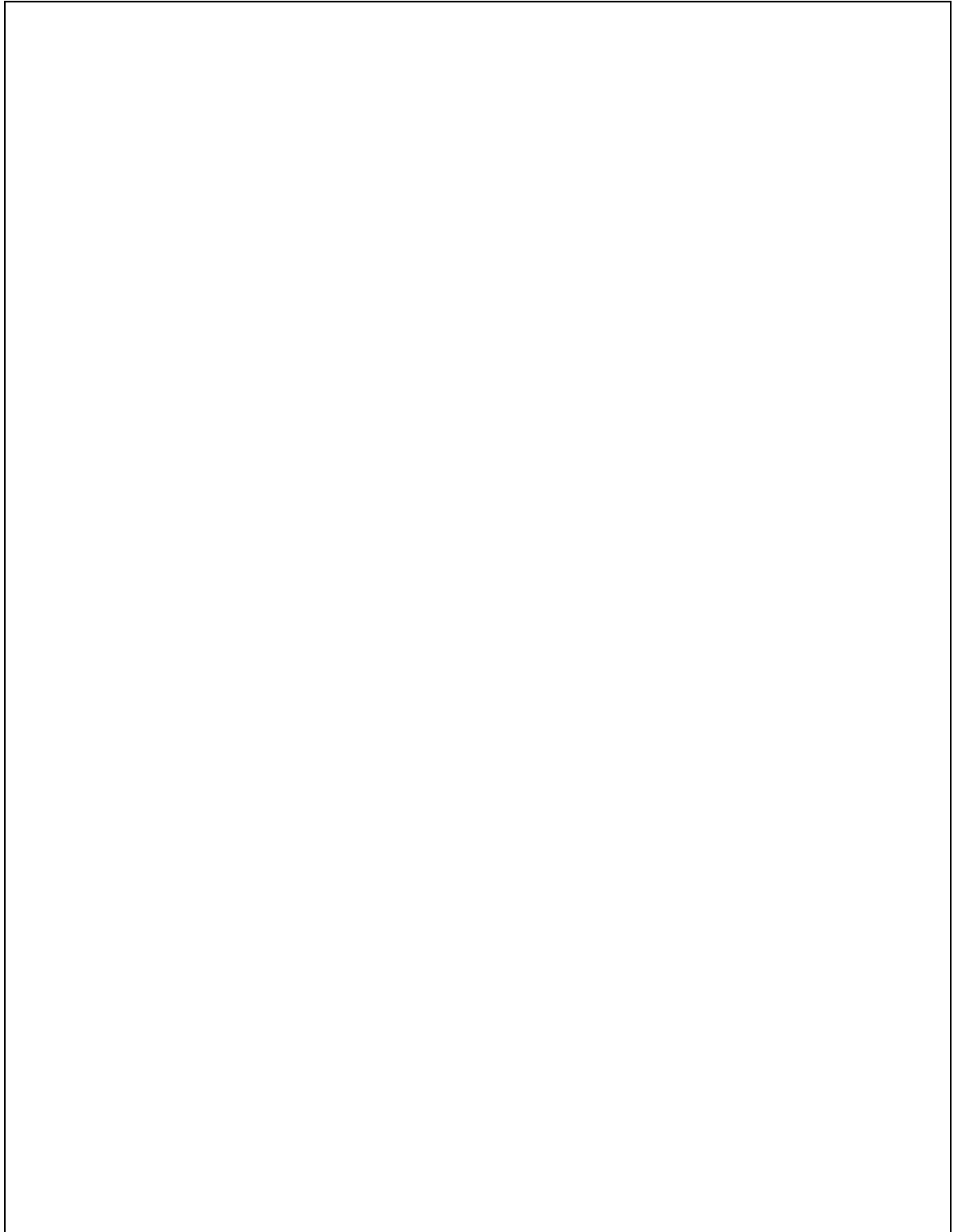
The first thing you see when you look at "Afghan Girl" is the striking beauty of the young girl. The sharp contrast between her exquisite green eyes and the dusty, earth-toned background highlights her presence in a way that is both intimate and beautiful. However, as one looks more closely, you notice that she has dirt and dust on her skin, reminding us of the harsh realities of her environment.

I was struck by the dual nature of this revelation. On the one hand, it is a reminder of the challenging circumstances many individuals around the world face, often struggling to meet even their most basic needs. On the other hand, it serves as a powerful testament to the shared humanity that unites us all. Despite the differences in culture, environment, and upbringing, the photograph shows that we all experience joy, pain, hope, and fear. This breaks any stereotypes one might hold, emphasizing the need for empathy and understanding in a globalized world.

In conclusion, "Afghan Girl" by Steve McCurry is a photograph that captures the essence of the human experience. Its arresting beauty draws the viewer in, only to reveal the grim reality of the subject's circumstances. This serves as a powerful reminder that people are inherently similar, bound by emotions and dreams no matter where you live or what your circumstances are. This photograph gave me an appreciation for the stories that images can tell and the universal threads that connect us all.



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(12 points)