

Snapshot Stories

Snapshots are informal photographs that capture a moment in time.

There are stories behind every scene, person and situation in a photograph – why the picture was taken, who took it, how someone ended up in a particular place, what they were thinking and feeling...

Look at this picture carefully. What story does it tell? Your challenge is to translate the photo-story into words. Use the questions below to get started... and don't forget to use your imagination!



Who are these men? What job do they do?

Where are they going and why?

How are they feeling?

What will they talk to you about when you meet them?

A photograph from the Samuel Butler Collection
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Now turn over and have a go at writing your snapshot story.

Use your answers on this side to help you. You can write a story from any perspective. Are you the narrator looking in, or are you one of the characters in the picture? Perhaps you're the photographer?

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Where is this man? What is the street around him like?

How is he experiencing his surroundings?

What's on his lap and what is he doing?

Who is he about to talk to, and what is he going to say?

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What is special about this man?

Where is he?

Who are the children and why have they stopped?

What are they thinking?

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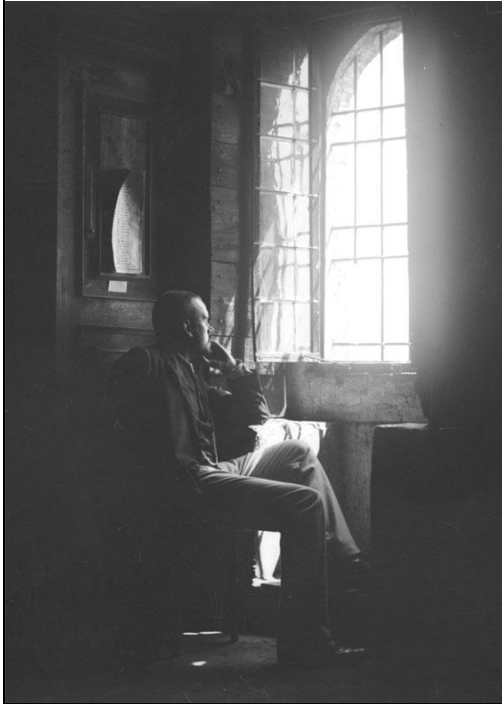
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Who is this man? Does he know he's being photographed?

What kind of room is he in? What is the atmosphere like in the room?

What is the man looking at or thinking about?

How would you feel if you were sitting here?

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What is the weather like?

How do the children feel?

Are they used to playing at the seaside?

What will they write in their diaries when they get home from the beach?

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What sort of men are these? Are they the same?

Where are they? What can they see, hear and smell?

What have they just been talking about?

How do they feel about having their picture taken?

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What are these men doing and why?

Do they know each other? Are they talking or being quiet?

What's going on in the building behind them?

What time of day is it? What are they going to do later?

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What are these people doing and where are they?

How do they know each other? Are they having a good time?

Who is the girl at the front waving to?

What is the man at the back thinking about?

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Where are these animals?

Who do they belong to? Are they well looked-after?

What do they do all day?

What memories could they share with you?

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Why is this woman having her photograph taken?

Where are they? What's behind them?

Who are the other people in the picture?

What will the woman do with the picture when she gets it?

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Where was this photograph taken? Is it noisy or quiet here?

What time of day is it and where are the people going?

What are the horses doing and why are they here?

Think about a busy street today – what can't you see in this picture?

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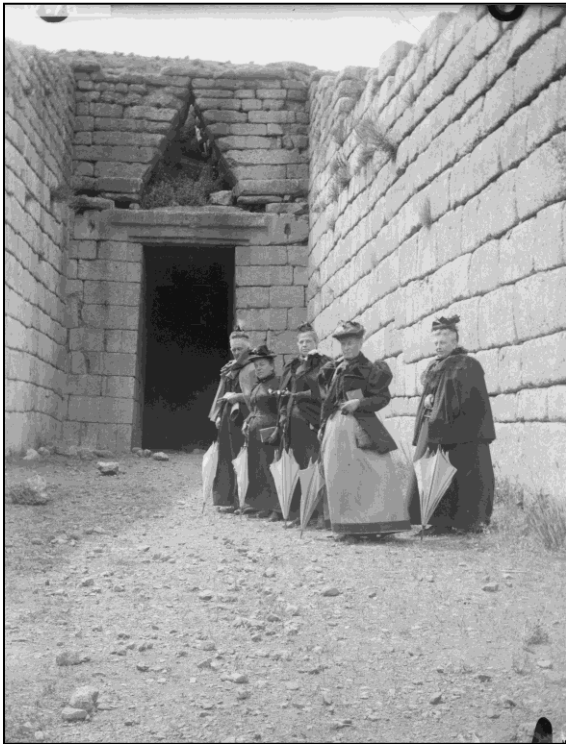
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Who are these ladies? Where do they normally live?

What kind of landscape are they in now?

What's through the doorway?

How will their feelings change if they go inside?

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What time of day is it and what's the weather like?

Who are the people in the carriages and where are they going?

What's through the archway?

What's behind the photographer?

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What are these pigs doing and how do they feel?

Where are they? What else is nearby?

How do you feel, looking at the picture?

Who took this photograph and why?

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What are these women doing?

What kind of place are they in?

How do they feel today?

What will they do when they get home?

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