# A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

## Lesson Overview

**Overview:** Students will use a photograph from the Library of Congress website to generate questions and observations about the picture.

**Grade Range:** 6-8

**Objective:** Students will generate a list of ten observations and five questions.

**Time Required:** One class period of 42 minutes

**Discipline/Subject:** Social Studies/English

**Topic/Subject:** War, Military

**Era:** Great Depression/World War II, 1929-1945

## Standards

**Illinois Learning Standards:**

- **Language Arts:**
  3-Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.
  A-Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and structure.
  B-Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.

- **Social Studies:**
  16-Understand events, trends, individuals and movements shaping the history of Illinois, the United States and other nations.
  A-Apply the skills of historical analysis and interpretation.

## Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handouts:</th>
<th>LOC Primary Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis Tools:</td>
<td>The More You Look, the More You See</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerPoint Slides:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Library of Congress Items:**

Title of Source: Mustang on Iwo Jima. Maintenance men of 72 fighter squadron, 21st group upload auxiliary fuel tanks for Mustang on Iwo Jima.

Date of Creation: 1944

URL of Source: [http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/93510126/](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/93510126/)

**Procedures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Step #</th>
<th>Resource or Material Used</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Put students in groups of four or five.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Have the photo on the SmartBoard and have each group with a copy of the picture.</td>
<td>PowerPoint/ LOC item</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Generate a list of ten questions about the primary source image.</td>
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<td>5. Discuss as a class.</td>
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<td>6. Exchange and answer another groups questions.</td>
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**Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on the completion of ten generated questions and class discussion.

**Author Credits:**

R.Walsh
Cumberland Elementary
THE MORE YOU LOOK, THE MORE YOU SEE PHOTO ANALYSIS

**What I See (observe)**
Describe exactly what you see in the photo.
*What people and objects are shown? How are they arranged? What is the physical setting?*
*What other details can you see?*

Summarize what you already know about the situation and time period shown and people and objects that appear. *I see ___ and I think ___*

**Interpretation**
Write what you conclude from what you see.
*What is going on in the picture? Who are the people and what are they doing? What might be the function of the objects?*  
*What can we conclude about the time period?*

*Why do you believe the photo was taken?*

*Why do you believe this photo was saved?*

**What I Need to Investigate**
What are three questions you have about the photo?
1.
2.
3.
*Where can you research the answers to your questions?*