

AP/IB Photo Entrance Exam
Study Guide

1. **Camera**
 - A. What is Camera Obscura?
 - B. How does your eye work exactly like a camera?
2. **ISO**
 - A. What does ISO stand for?
 - B. How is it related to photography?
 - C. How do you adjust this on the camera?
 - D. When do you use high ISO settings (generally) and when do you use low ISO settings (generally)?
 - E. How do ISO settings affect the quality of an image? (hint: this has to do with “grain” in film photography and “noise” in digital photography)
 - F. Why is ISO important? (ISO is often overlooked by many beginning photographers, this is why I am asking this)
3. **Stop** – what is a stop in relation to photography?
4. **Exposure**
 - A. What is an exposure in photography?
 - B. What does the light meter do in a camera? Do you know how to use it manually?
 - C. What is 18% gray? Why is this important in photography?
 - D. What is meant by “equivalent exposure”?
 - E. What is exposure compensation?
 - F. When a subject is backlit, how do you control exposure to get a silhouette?
 - G. In the same circumstances, how do you control your exposure to get the shadow detail to come out on the subject?
 - H. What is “bracketing” in relation to photography? Why is it important to know how to do this?

5. Shutter Speed

- A. What is shutter speed?
- B. What does it control?
- C. Why is 1000 a faster shutter speed than 60? What do the numbers 1000 and 60 actually represent?
- D. What is freeze motion?
- E. What is pan motion?
- F. What is blur motion?
- G. What is a good shutter speed to freeze most forms of motion?
- H. What shutter speed is ideal for shooting pan and blur motion?
- I. At what shutter speed does it start to be too slow to shoot without a tripod (otherwise you risk getting blurred images from camera shake)?

6. Aperture (or f-stop)

- A. What is the aperture on a camera?
- B. What does it control?
- C. F/4 is a larger f-stop opening than f/22. Why is this? (in other words, why would a smaller number mean a larger opening?) What do these numbers actually represent?
- D. What is depth of field?
- E. How does the aperture control depth of field?
- F. What is meant by a shallow depth of field?
- G. Which would give you a larger depth of field: f/4 or f/22?
- H. Why would you want a shallow depth of field?

7. White Balance

- A. What is white balance?
- B. Why is it important to know about this as a photographer?
- C. How do you adjust white balance on your camera?

8. File types

- A. What is a JPEG (or JPG)?
- B. What is a TIFF?
- C. What is a PSD?
- D. What is a RAW file?
- E. How do you change from the RAW setting on the camera to the JPEG setting on a camera?
- F. When shooting on JPEG, why is it generally best that you have your camera set to L (large JPG)?

9. Shooting Settings

- A. What is Manual Mode (M)?
- B. What is Aperture Priority Mode or Aperture Value Mode (A or Av)? They are the same thing, manufacturers use different names.
- C. What is Shutter Priority Mode or Time Value Mode (S or Tv)?
- D. What is Program Mode (P)?
- E. What is Auto Mode? (A or a green rectangle)

10. File Dimensions

- A. What is the DPI of a digital image?
- B. What is the resolution of an image?
- C. What is the relationship between the inches dimensions and resolution of an image? (For example, if the resolution of an image goes up, what happens to the inches size of the image?)
- D. To print an image without too much pixilation, a file should be at least what DPI in its resolution?