

Photo 1

Name \_\_\_\_\_

History of Photography

Due Date \_\_\_\_\_

You earned \_\_\_\_\_ out of 20 possible points.

**Worksheet #11**

Postmodernism

Define postmodernism. How does it relate to and differ from modernism? Cindy Sherman's Untitled Film Stills were among the first artworks to be called Postmodern. What is Postmodern about Sherman's work?

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Cindy Sherman enjoyed "dressing up" and assuming various personas from an early age. For her graduate thesis project as an art student, she began a series called the Untitled Film Stills where she took this youthful play-acting and turned it into art that makes a strong social critique. In your view, what is the artist's purpose? What is her critique?

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Why does Cindy Sherman leave the individual images of the Untitled Film Stills series untitled?

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The size, format and imagery of the *Untitled Film Stills* closely relates to cinema and movies from the 50s and 60s. Why, as a female artist with a decidedly feminist message, does Sherman reflect upon this particular media?

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Compare and contrast Cindy Sherman's **Untitled Film Stills** with the images from Larry Clark's **Tulsa** series. Are the works autobiographical or fictive? What approach do the photographers take? What is the focus of each artist's attention? What message does each photographer convey in their work? Are these messages similar or in complete opposition to each other?

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Cindy Sherman describes herself not as a photographer, but as a performance artist and as a conceptualist. How does Cindy Sherman's work relate to these two styles? How would you categorize her work?

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