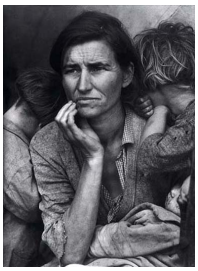
Photo 1
History of Photography

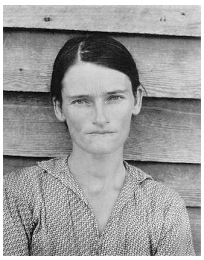
Name _____

You earned _____ out of 20 possible points.

Worksheet #7
The Farm Security Administration



Dorothea Lange. Migrant Mother. 1936.



Walker Evans. Allie Mae Burroughs, Cotton Tenant Farmer's Wife, Hale County. 1936.

Read http://www.openphotographyforums.com/art_MICHAEL_STONES_001.php
http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/migrantmother.htm
http://www.weedpatchcamp.com/Migrant%20Mother/MMother.htm
and answer the following questions.

Why did Dorothea Lange take the famous Migrant Mother photo? For what purpose was the image used? What government program was Lange supporting and employed by when she took the photo?

Did Thompson and her family benefit at all from the photo? If so, how? If not, should she have had some benefit?

Compare the story of the photo that Thompson's grandson tells with the story that Dorothea Lange tells. What conflicts appear between the two versions?

Why is Migrant Mother considered an "icon of the Depression?" Why did Thompson resent the famous image of herself?

Compare and contrast Lange's photo with the Walker Evans's image of Allie Mae Burroughs. What ideals and romantic notions do each of the images convey? Describe how the formal properties of the images function to convey the artist's point of view.