

Photographic Scenarios

I will describe a few common photographic scenarios. I want you to describe how you would optimize your camera for each of the scenarios. For each camera, and for each scenario, there could be different settings..

Imagine that you are taking your camera out of its case and that you are going to start taking photographs, what would you do?

Think about the following things when deciding on the appropriate settings:

- The amount of light.
- The color of the light.
- The dynamic range of the light. (How bright the highlights and how dark are the shadows?)
- Will the light vary depending on what you are photographing?
- What portion of the image do you want to have exposed properly?
- The motion of the subjects. (Will your subject be moving?)
- How much of the scene do you need in focus? (Do you need a group or wide perspective or are you going to focus on individual details? Maybe you will do both.)
- What camera equipment should you bring? (Will you need extra batteries, a charger, more memory cards, a tripod etc.?)
- The intended use of the photographs. (What quality do you need?)

Some of the things that you might think about include, but are not limited to”

- White Balance
- Metering Mode
- ISO Setting
- Scene Mode
- Exposure Mode (PASM)
- Exposure Compensation
- Focus settings
- Other features specific to your camera

You are taking photographs of the North American dog sled race on Second Avenue. The weather is bright and sunny.

1. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
2. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are indoors, in a classroom with windows. You can imagine the student center at TVC. You will be taking photographs of people working and studying.

3. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
4. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are at the summer solstice festival in Fairbanks; you are taking photographs of the people. It is 7:00 in the evening.

5. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
6. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are at a school concert, your child is playing, you are in the audience and your child is on the stage. You want to take photographs of your child performing.

7. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
8. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are taking photographs of a person, you are looking up at the person, and their head is surrounded by bright sky.

9. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
10. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are walking at Creamer's field. You are going on the woodland path. It is summer, around noon, with a cloudy sky.

11. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
12. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are at Denali, you are riding the bus into the park, it is a sunny day and it is June.

13. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
14. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are at a family picnic, you are taking candid photographs of family members, it is sunny day, and it is August.

15. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
16. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You have found a beautiful flower at the Georgeson Botanical Garden at UAF, you want to take close ups of the flower.

17. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
18. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?

You are fooling with your camera around the house, it is fall, and you want to take photographs of your family as they prepare dinner.

19. Analyze the scene, briefly describe the problems and opportunities that you confront when photographing the scene.
20. Describe how you would prepare your camera to start taking photographs. How would you set up your camera?