Assignment

This is a rather simple assignment to do, but you should take the time to really observe what you see in your viewfinder as you go through the process.

You should also really study the results of your images. I encourage you to print them out when you get home and lay them side by side to get the most out of your evaluation.

GETTING STARTED

We are going to begin by setting up a series of "test images".

- Select a large background area such as a large area of greenery or a background with an architectural interest
- Position your subject about 10 feet from the background and instruct them not to move
- Position yourself about 10 feet away from your subject and do not move
- Create a series of images without you or your subject moving using 28mm, 50mm, 75mm, 100mm, 150mm and 200mm
- Repeat the entire series with your subject 20 feet away from the background and with you 10 feet from the subject

EVALUATE YOUR IMAGES:

Describe what you found:

How did the lens choice impact depth of field with the subject 10 feet from the background?

How about at 20 feet?

How did the lens choice impact the relationship of the subject to the background at 10 feet?

How about at 20 feet?

How did the lens choice impact what you saw in the background or what you did not see in the background?

If you or your subject had been allowed to move left or right (keeping the same 10 feet and 20 distances), could you have found better areas in your background to use with your subject?

What is your overall impression of the results?

The next exercise is to evaluate the lens choice for a given composition.
- Use the same background location that you selected in the previous series.
- Position your subject about 10 feet from the background
- Create a "head and shoulders" portrait using your 28mm lens. You can get as close as you have to get a proper composition.
- Next, try to get the exact composition and framing using 50mm. Back up as needed to keep the subject the same in the viewfinder.
- Repeat using 75mm, 100mm, 150mm and 200mm. Keep backing up so that each image is as close to the same crop of your subject as possible
- Repeat the entire series with your subject 20 feet from the background

EVALUATE YOUR IMAGES
Describe what you found:

How did the lens choice impact depth of field with the subject 10 feet from the background?

How about at 20 feet?

How did the lens choice impact the relationship of the subject to the background at 10 feet?

How about at 20 feet?

How did the lens choice impact what you saw in the background or what you did not see in the background?

If you or your subject had been allowed to move left or right (keeping the same 10 feet and 20 distances), could you have found better areas in your background to use with your subject?

What is the overall impression of the results?

Bonus Question
Why did we not do either of these exercises with the subject standing right next to the background?