

Photograph interpretation (15 marks)

What is a photograph?

A photograph is a picture of an object or environment taken by a camera at a particular time in a given place.

A photograph may cover a large region i.e. where is taken by satellite or it may cover a smaller place i.e. where is taken by usual cameras.

Types of photographs.

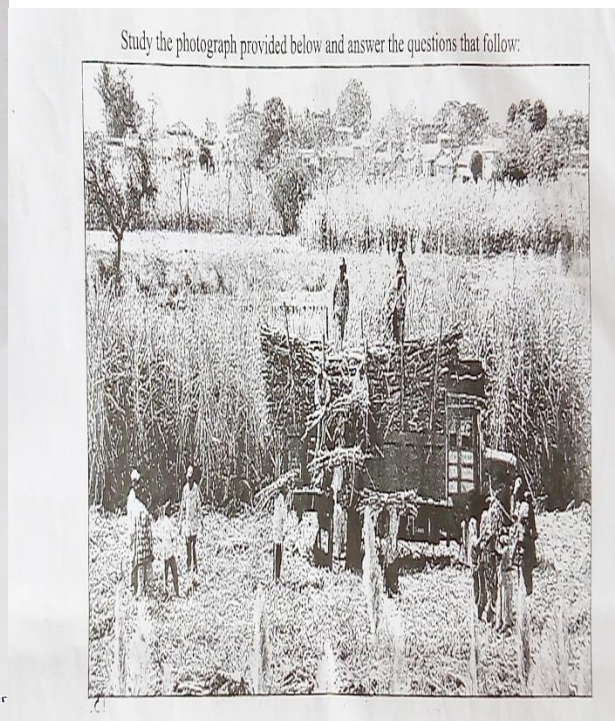
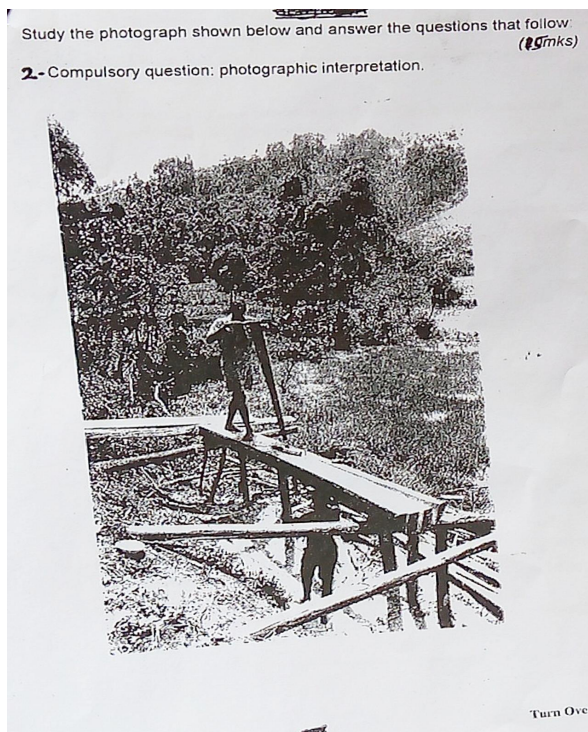
There are two types of photographs namely;

- (i) Ground /close up photographs.
- (ii) Aerial /air photographs.

Ground photographs:

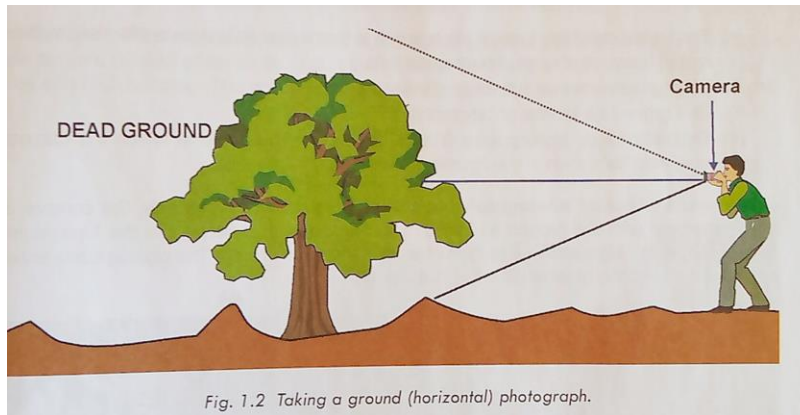
These are photographs taken from the ground level perspective. They record exactly what a person would see if he/she stands in a place of a photographer.

Examples of ground photographs

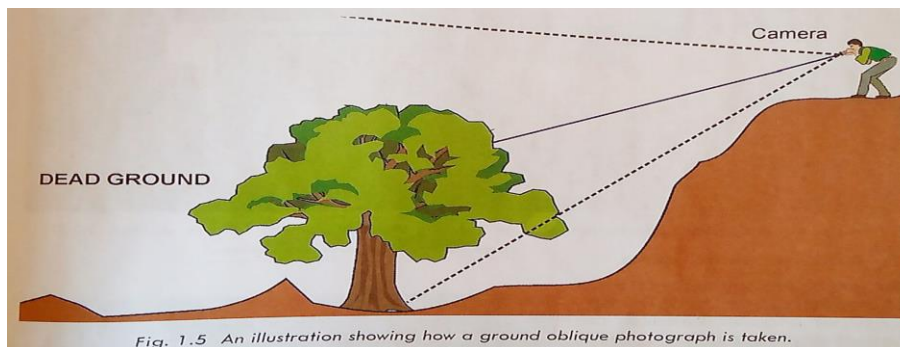


Ground photographs are also sub divided in to two i.e

- (a) **Ground horizontal photograph:** these are photographs taken when the camera is held horizontal with the ground.



- (b) **Ground oblique photographs:** these are photographs taken when the camera is tilted at an angle facing the ground. Eg. from the hill slope, top of a tree or a building.



Characteristics of ground photographs:

- They show the landscape in great details i.e the variations in the size and heights of different objects on the photograph.
- They cover a small area as compared to aerial photograph.
- The features in the foreground appear clear and bigger.
- They usually show one dimension of the object.
- In some ground photographs especially on an open landscape, the objects/features appear progressively in a smaller scale as one moves to the background.
- In some ground photographs like oblique, the horizon is seen.

Aerial photographs:

These are photographs taken from the air by either aircrafts, satellites or by any other flying object such as helium balloon carriers.

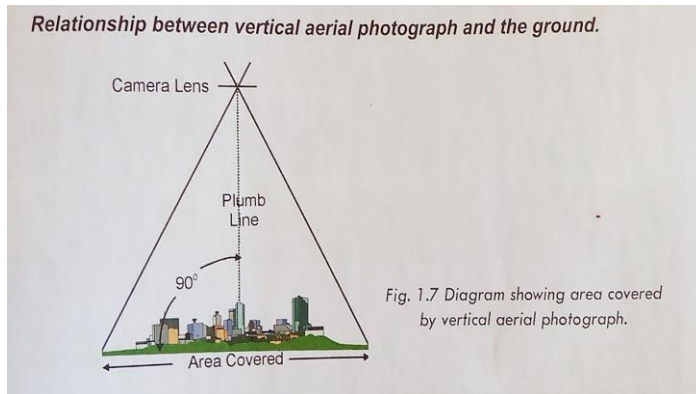
Aerial photographs are useful in studying distant places because of their coverage of a wide area.

An example of an aerial photograph

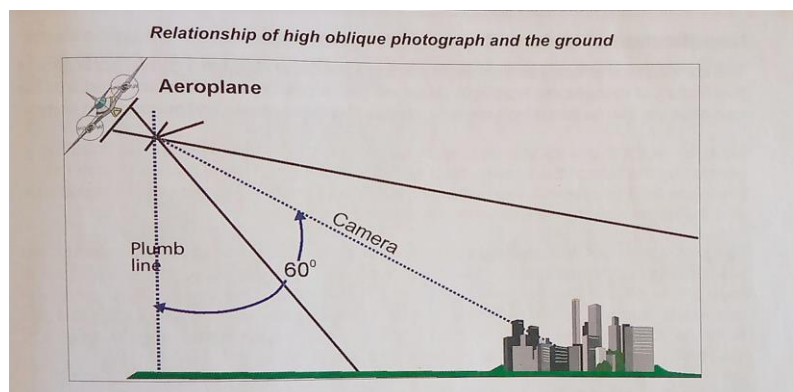


Aerial photographs are also sub divided in to two i.e

- (a) **Vertical aerial photographs:** these are photographs taken when the camera is directly above (overhead) the object or when the camera is perpendicular to the ground.



- (b) **Oblique aerial photographs:** these are photographs taken at an angle from a flying aircraft with a camera tilted at an angle.



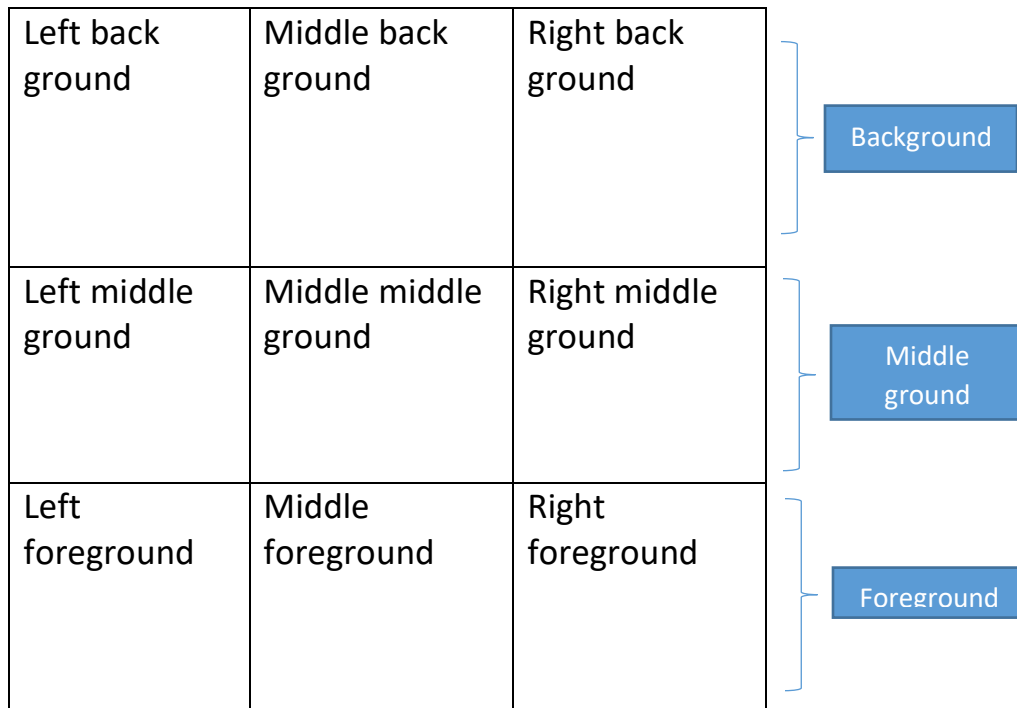
Characteristics of aerial photographs:

- They cover a very wide area as compared to ground photographs. However, the coverage of vertical aerial photograph is smaller than that of oblique aerial photographs.
- The features are greatly reduced in height and size and generally appear flattened.
- Mainly the top parts of the objects/features are shown.
- They don't show the horizon i.e vertical oblique photographs.

Parts of a photograph:

A photograph is divided in to **three** horizontal and **three** vertical divisions. In other wards it's divided in to **nine** parts.

Illustration:



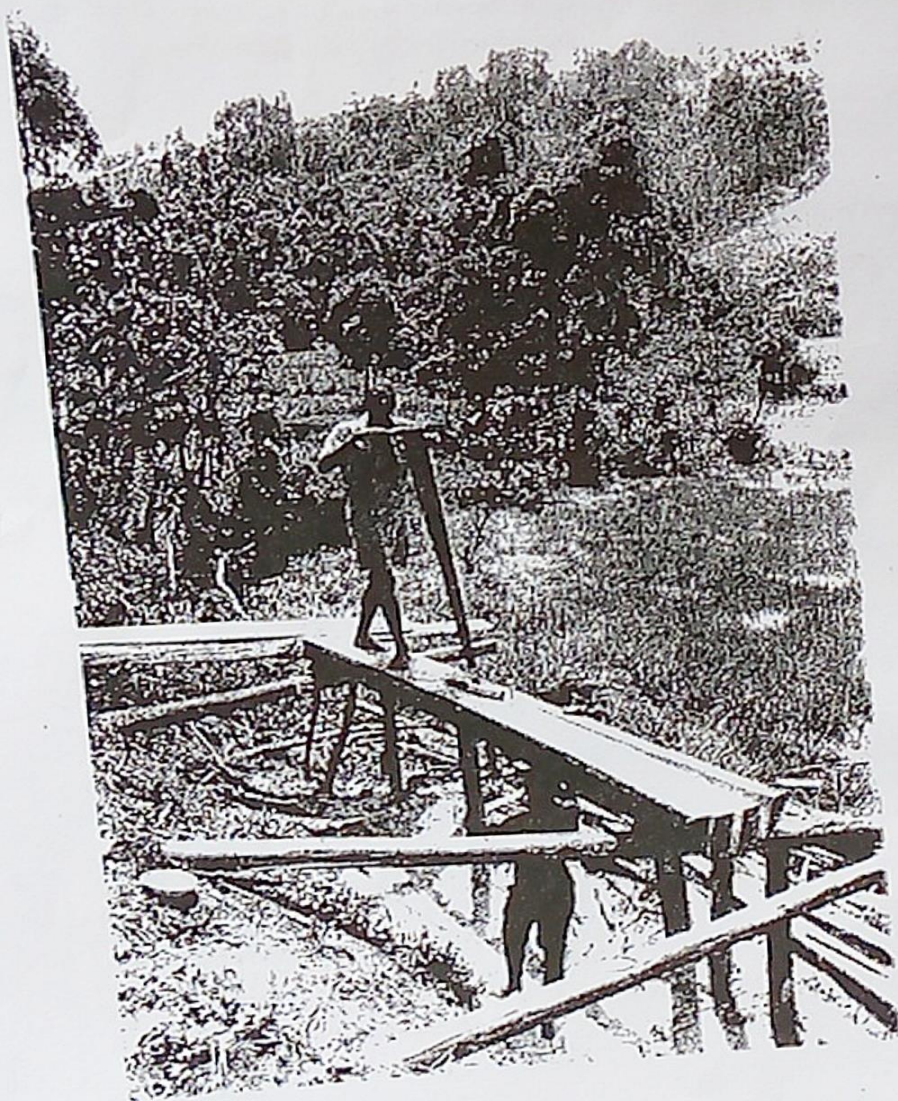
Sketching a photograph.

Sketching a photograph does not include drawing the photograph its self but it focuses on the identification, marking using symbols and labeling the marked features in their relative positions.

Sample questions:

Study the photograph shown below and answer the questions that follow:
(19mks)

2- Compulsory question: photographic interpretation.



Turn Over

(a) Identify the type of the photograph above.

- A ground photograph.

(b). Identify the economic activity taking place in the photograph.

- Lumbering/tree felling/tree harvesting/tree cutting.

(c).Name the method being used in the economic activity identified in (b) above.

- Hand saw method.

(d). Giving evidence from the photograph describe the factors which have favored the economic activity in (b) above.

- Presence of skilled labour evidenced by people in the photograph.
- Large forested land evidenced by large area covered by trees in the background.
- Large sums of capital for buying machines like hand saw being used.
- Fertile soils that support the growth of tall trees in the background.
- Reliable rainfall for the growth of trees evidenced by tall trees in the background.
- Supportive government policy that allows lumbering to take place.
- Gently sloping landscape that enabled the construction of the platform.
- Modern /advanced technology used evidenced by a hand saw and a raised platform.
- Ready/wide market for the timber evidenced by people cutting trees.

(c). Outline the problems faced by the people carrying out the economic activity.

- Accidents may occur leading to loss of lives.
- The activity is tiresome in terms of cutting the trees.
- Shortage of labour to cut and fell the trees.
- Inadequate capital for buying protective gear, power saws etc.
- Attacks from dangerous wild animals like snakes and biting insects leading to loss of lives.
- Some trees take long to mature making it hard to select mature trees.
- Harsh weather conditions like hot sunshine and rainfall making the felling of trees difficult.

- Some trees have buttress roots making felling difficult and expensive.
- Difficulty in the transportation of timber to the market due to under developed transport network.

(d).Outline the effects of the economic activity on the environment.

- Leads to the destruction of the vegetation cover leading to global warming.
- Accelerates soil erosion hence reduction in soil fertility.
- Destroys the habitat for wildlife hence affecting tourism.
- Leads to landslides leading to destruction of life and property.
- Leads to flooding hence reduction in soil fertility.

(c). Giving reasons for your answer suggest one area in east Africa where the photograph could have been taken.

- Mention at least one forested area in east Africa whether natural or planted forests E.g. Mabira, Bwindi, Budongo, Bugoma etc. (natural forests). Lendu, Agwata, Magamaga, Mafuga etc. (planted forests)

Reasons:

- Due to the presence of forests
- Due to the gentle landscape
- It's where lumbering activity is carried out.

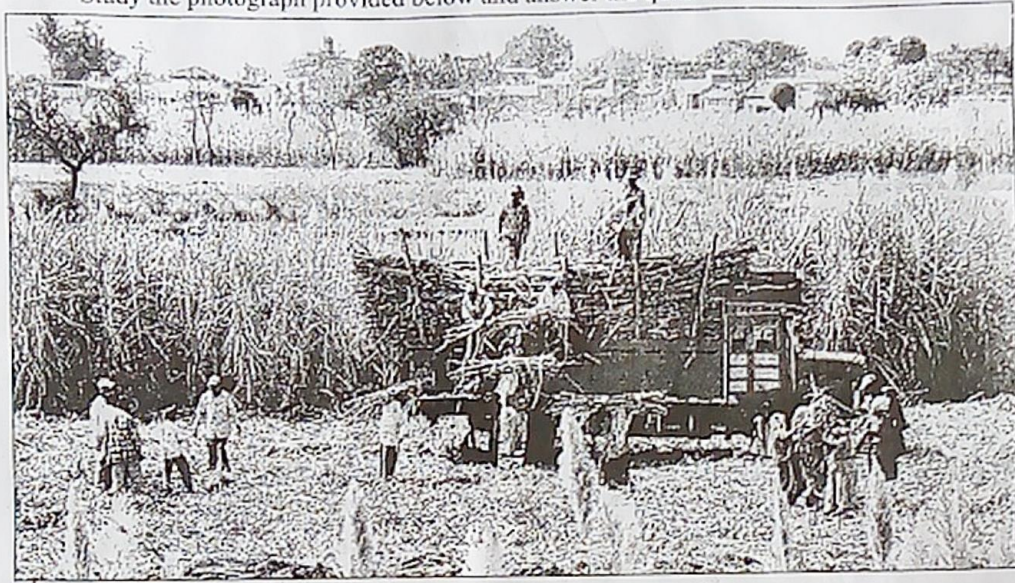
N.B: The area is tied with the reason for a candidate to earn a mark.

Assignment:

2. COMPULSORY QUESTION: PHOTOGRAPH INTERPRETATION. (15 MARKS)

Answer ALL parts of this question.

Study the photograph provided below and answer the questions that follow:



- (a) Identify the
- (i) economic activity in the central foreground. (1mark)
 - (ii) type of crop grown in the middle ground of the photograph. (1mark)
- (b) Describe the factors that have favoured the growing of the crop in the photograph. (4marks)
- (c) Explain the benefits of growing the crop in a (ii) above to the people of the area. (4marks)
- (d) (i) Outline the effects of growing the crop to the environment of the area. (3marks)
- (ii) Giving reasons for your answer, name anyone area in East Africa where the Photograph could have been taken. (2marks)

