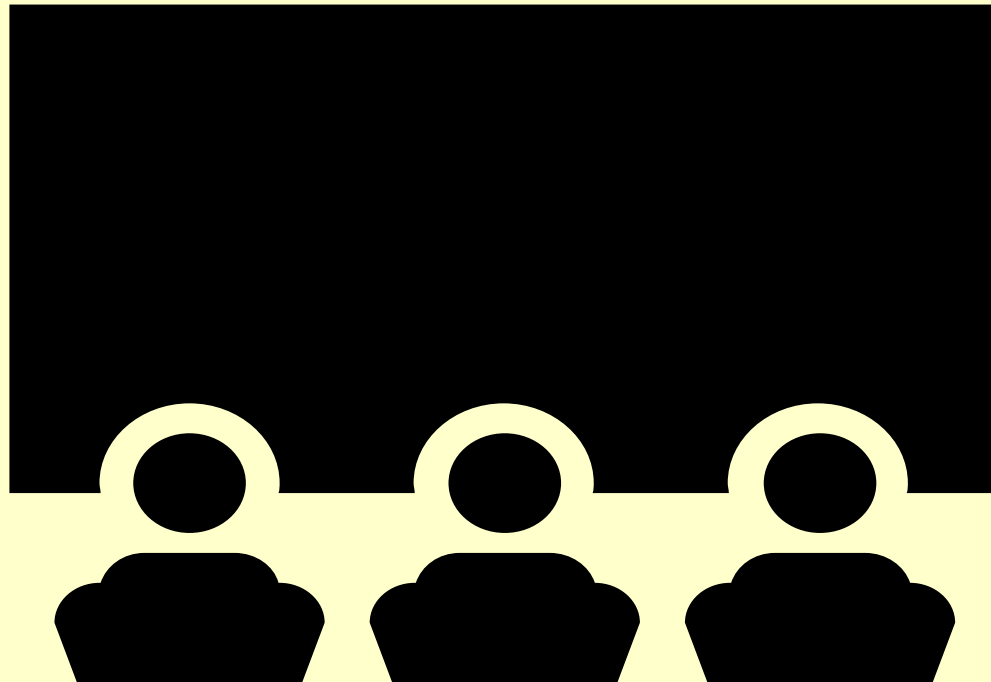




PSSA - JAP

Judging Pitfalls 2023





Judging Pitfalls 2023

Let's start the session by listing all the RULES in photography!!



Judging Pitfalls 2023

Let's start the session by listing all the rules in photography!!

- **Plagiarism is NOT allowed.**
- **Everything in your photo MUST be your own work**



Judging Pitfalls 2023

Otherwise:

There are **NOOOO rules** in photography;
only guidelines!!!!!!



Judging Pitfalls 2023

Otherwise:

There are **NOOOO rules** in photography;
only guidelines!!!!!!





Judging Pitfalls 2023

1. There are NOOOO rules in photography; only guidelines!!!!!!!
2. There will always be those who look at technique, who ask “how”, while others of a more curious nature will ask “why”.
3. Judging will ALWAYS be SUBJECTIVE. The trick is to be as OBJECTIVE in this subjective world as is possible.

*I have always preferred inspiration to information.
Man Ray.*

- 4. Club Judging: Sharing and learning. Listen to advice that is offered.**
- 5. Club Judging: Appraisal; teaching. Give modest advice on how you think the photograph can be improved. To judge is a big responsibility.**
- 6. Did your photographic technique improve since joining the camera club?**
- 7. We are all judges; even if only you judge the judges!**

**** You start by assessing your own work;
- how objective are you then?**

8. What is judging about:

- Looking for the message that a picture is trying to convey**
- Analysing the picture content and treatment**
- Considering the technical aspects**
- Delivered in a constructive package**
- It is not about promoting your own ideas, neither being over critical or negative (looking for faults, something wrong)**
- You as judge will often be judged/criticized.**
- Be clear, honest and consistent in your judgement and comments.**

9. **Good Photography start with the Technical aspects.** *Photography is ALL about light, composition and EMOTION. Larry Wilder.*

- **Correct exposure**
- **Correct sharpness**
- **Correct colour and Tonal balance (Mono and Colour)**
- **Well composed**
- **Processing:**
 - **Noise (but...)**
 - **Halos (but...)**
 - **Chromatic Aberration**
 - **Over Saturation (but...)**

10. Good judging – Express yourself correctly!!

Do not pass judgement, appraise, assess and analyse. Do NOT describe the photo!!

Judging should be evaluative, not critical. Be:

- Helpful
- Fair
- Informed. How often do I look at pictures other than my own? Read books; visit exhibitions!
- Interesting
- Unbiased
- A good time manager: positive comments, constructive, friendly, respectful, don't waffle, admit if you don't know (but...)

- Enjoy judging
- Don't lecture
- Don't make assumptions (you will most likely be wrong)
- Judge what you see on the screen;
You DON'T judge difficulty
- Keep an open mind
- Don't compare; or be prejudiced by what you have seen before.
- Be helpful, encourage and develop high standards of photography. Promote photography as a pleasure; other people's work is a joy to behold.

11. The message of the photograph is all important. It might be that the photographer got it “right” and you as judge “failed” to read the message; or visa versa.
12. Mindset: do I look with a critical mind, or with an appreciative mind?
13. Your score and comments **MUST** match!!!!

The judge however has the final decision, after all, you have been asked to give your opinion. **BUT** remember: Judging is a **HUGE** responsibility.

Why did I enter my Image: To get someone else's opinion!!

The Challenge:

- **Apply Your Mind for the CORRECT advice**
- **Expressing Yourself Correctly!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

The TECHNICAL ASPECTS are IMPORTANT:

(it is the foundation of an image)

- Correct exposure
- Correct sharpness
- Noise
- Correct processing,
- etc...

Correct Exposure









Correct Sharpness



















Saturation







Clichés: (Real Pitfalls)

1. Nit-picking
2. Subject In the middle
3. Negative space
4. Even/uneven numbers
5. Must see the face?
6. Photographing other people's Art
7. Movement in the wheels
8. Not all images require cropping
9. Not all images require a border/Unfit borders
10. Wrong time of day
11. Horizon in the middle/skew
12. Sharp from front to the back
13. Catchlight in the eye
14. Mono must have from pure White To Black...

Personal likes/dislikes

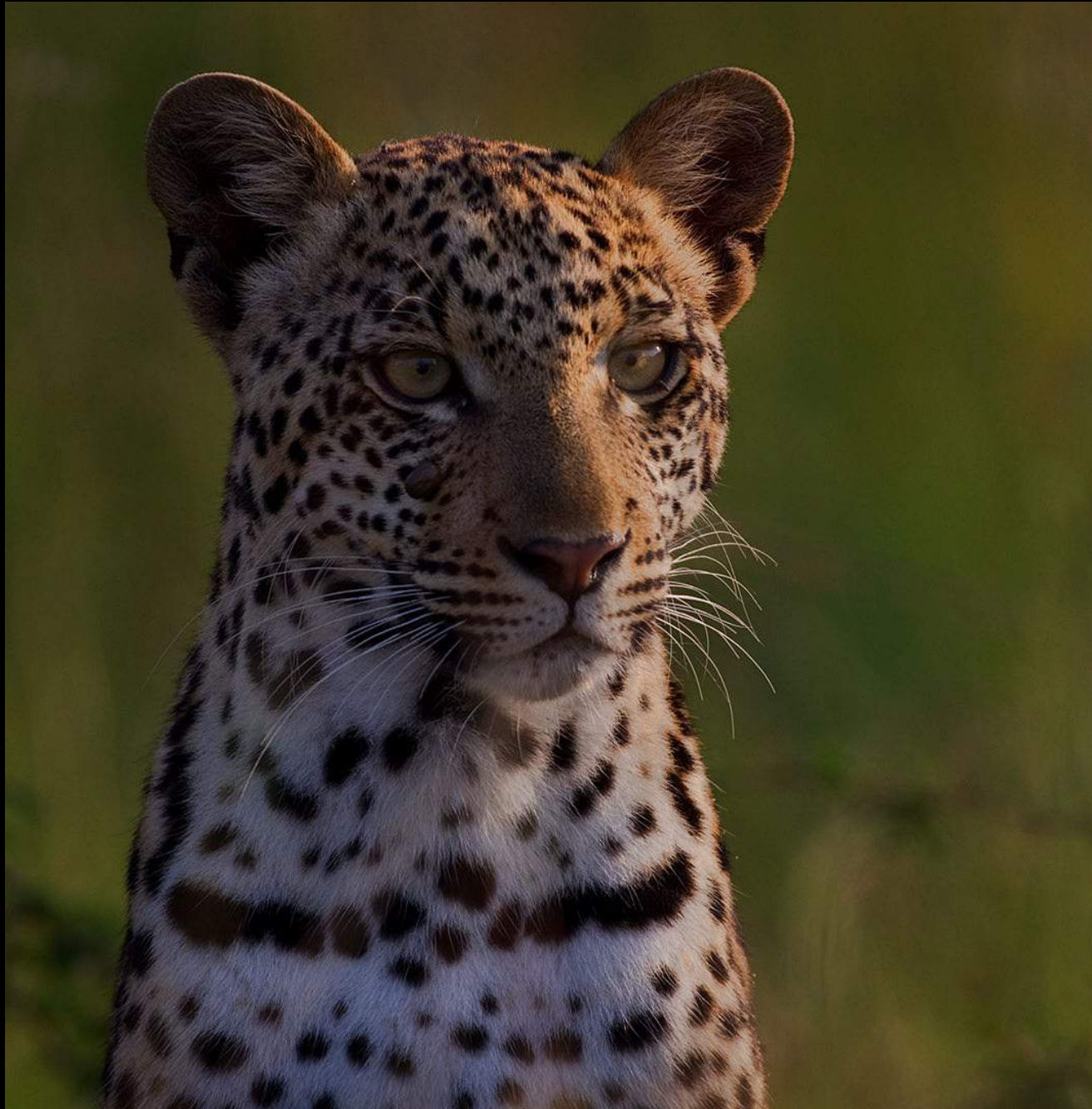
And there are many more

Nitpicking

- does it have an influence on the score?
If it does, mention it, if it doesn't DON'T
mention it







Subject in the Middle











Negative Space











Even/Uneven Numbers

Don't count the subjects!!!















Must See the Face















Photographing other peoples Art















Straighten the angles?



Movement in the wheels







Not all images need Cropping
- correct cropping





















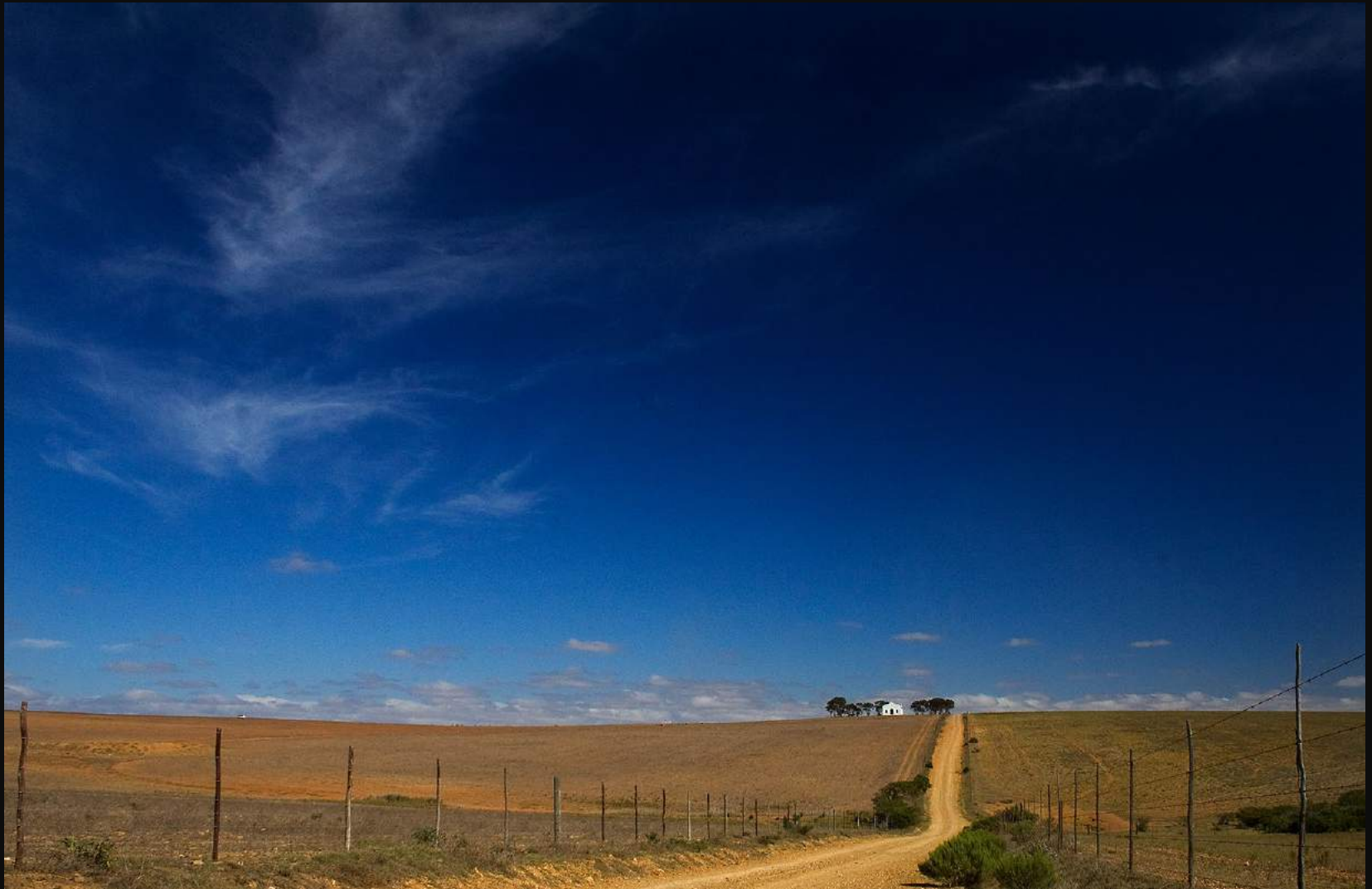








Wrong Time of Day
- talk about the light









Horizon in the Middle/skew





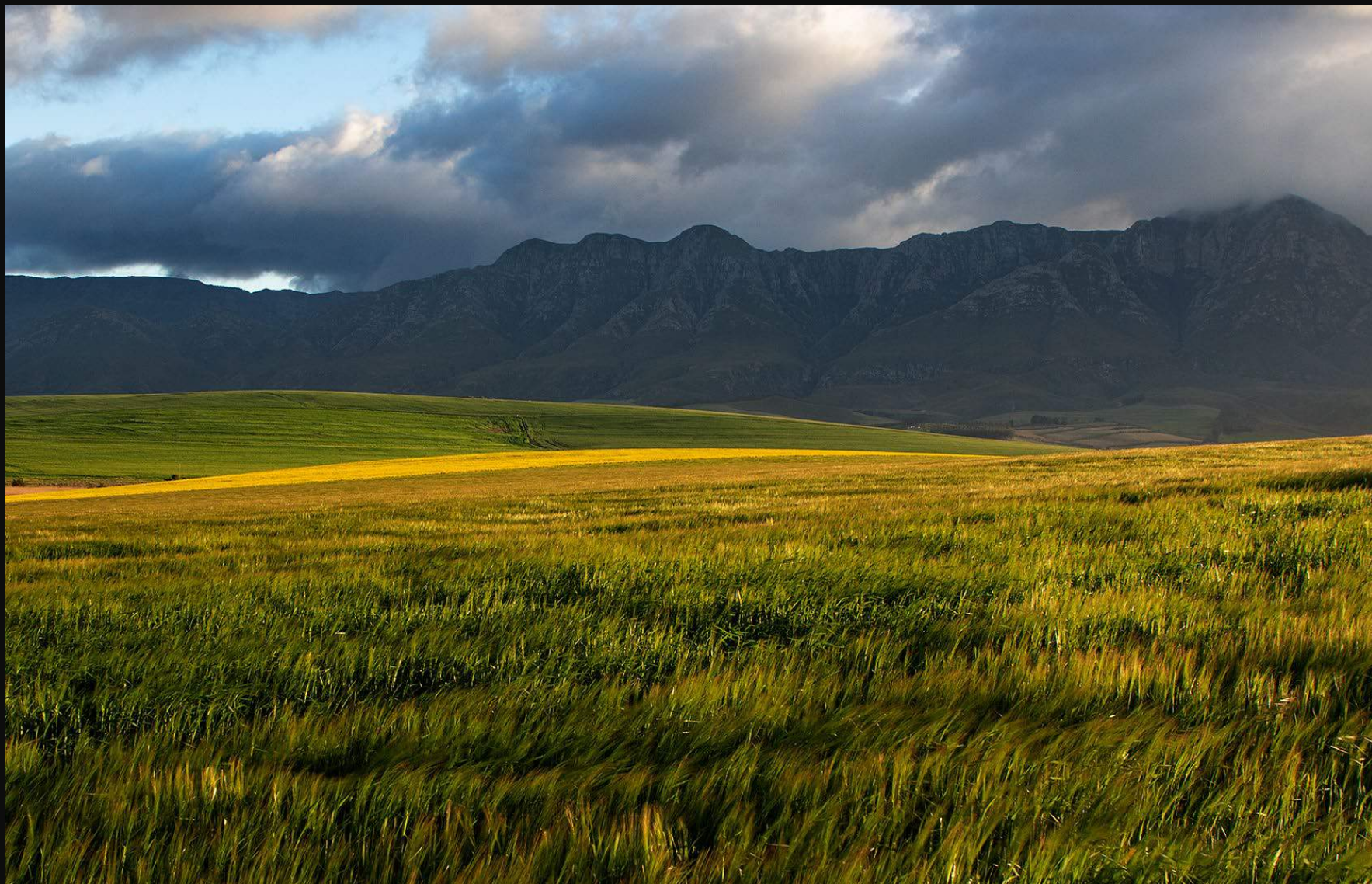


Skew horizon





Sharp from back to front



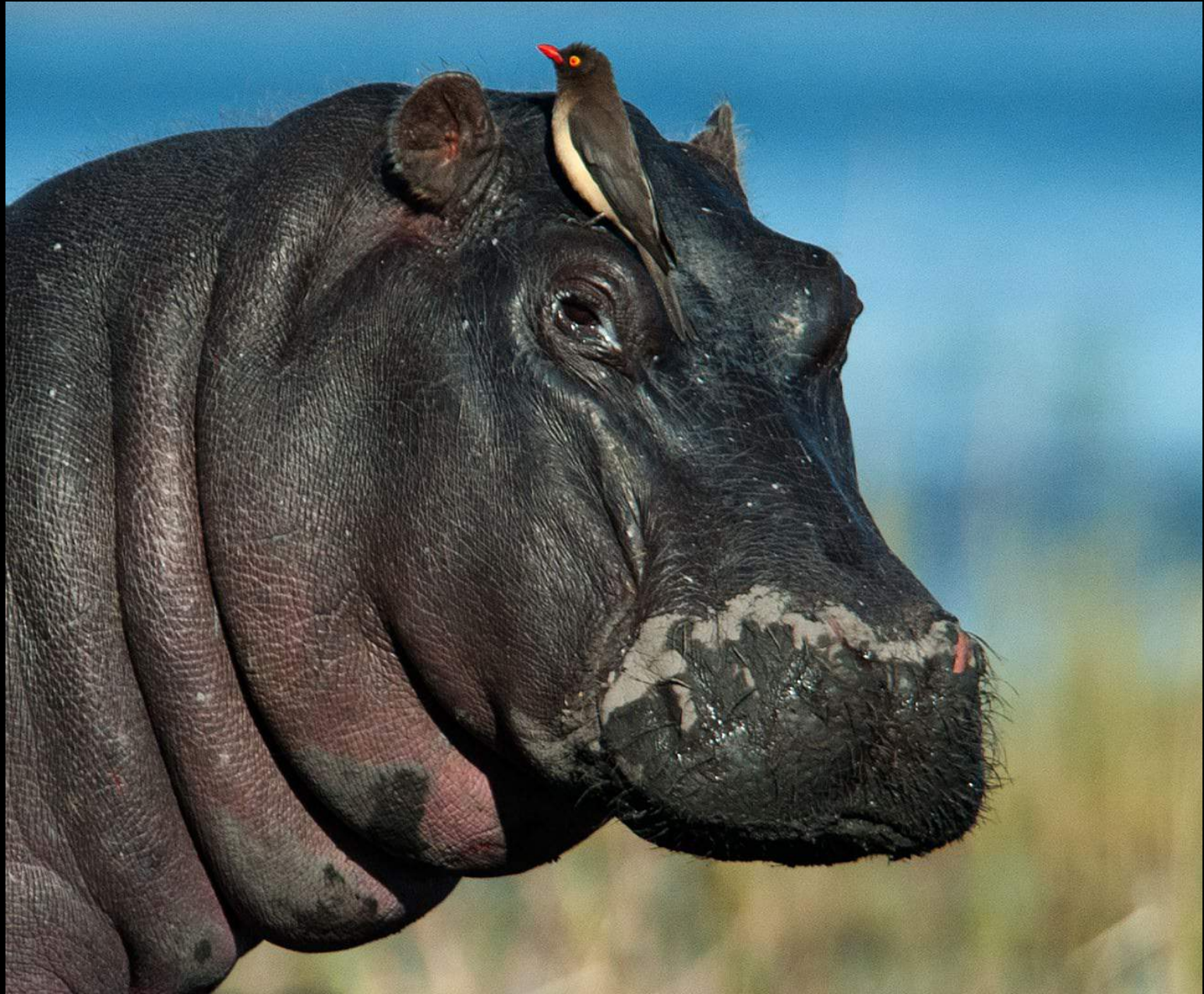






Catchlight / light in the eye





Black-
White

Tonal Range

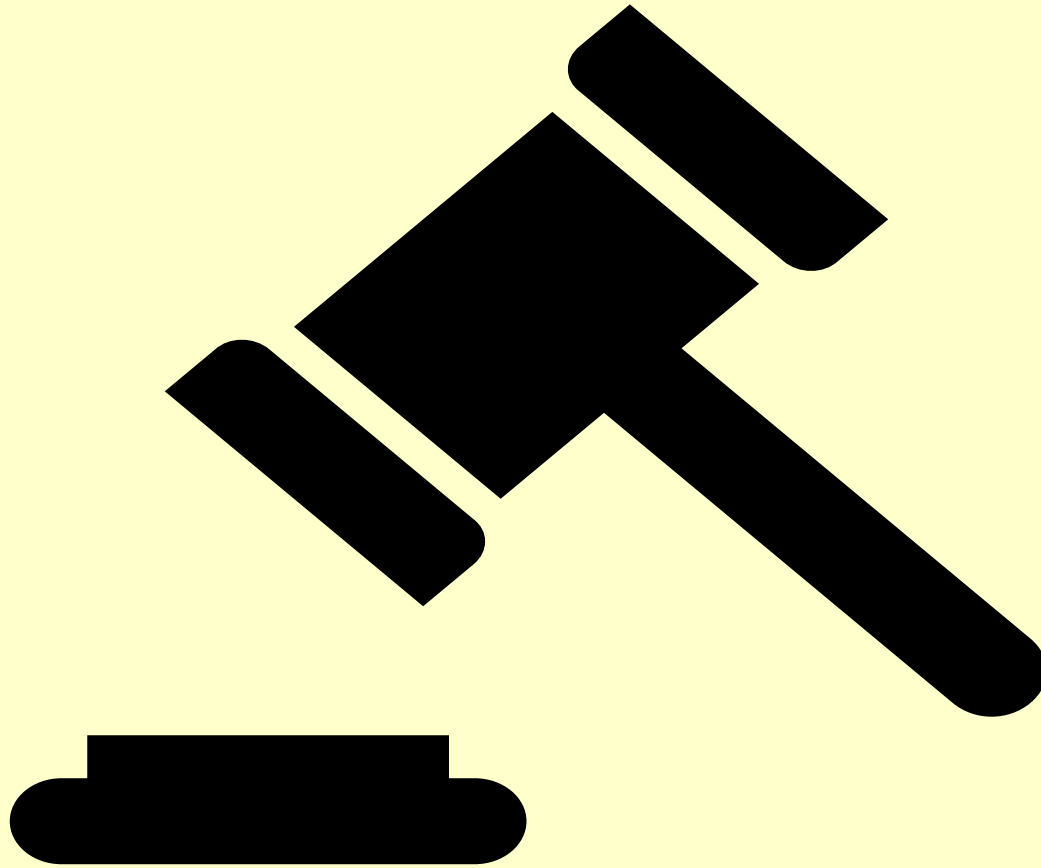












You be an **INFORMED** judge!!

- Your comments need to fit the score!!!
- Your comments need to be appropriate and helpful !!