# An introduction to photography

## KEY VOCABULARY

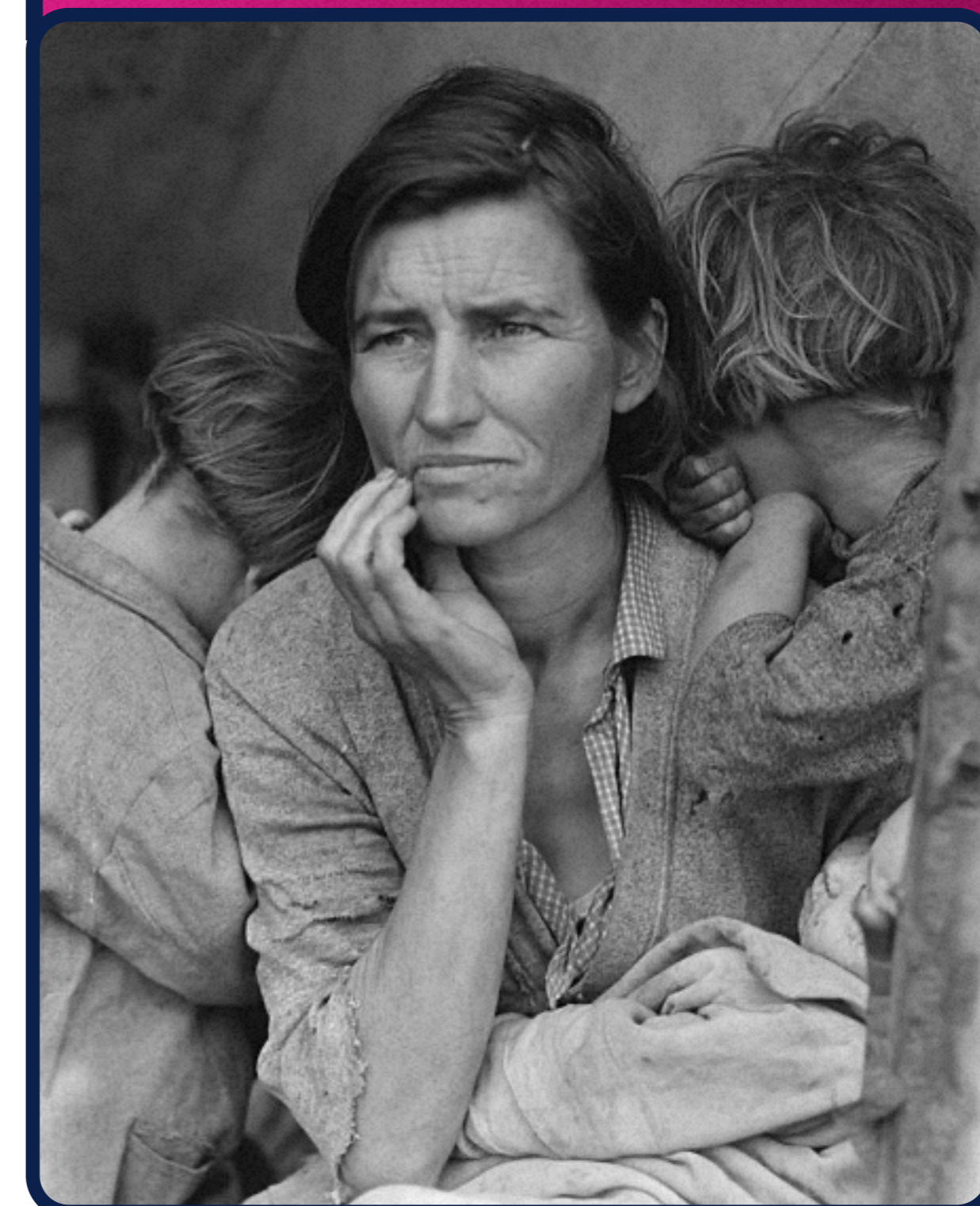| | |
|---|---|
| **camera obscura** | a darkened box, with a hole in it that **allows an image to be projected on to a screen inside** |
| **daguerreotype** | a photograph taken by an early photographic process, **using a camera obscura onto a metal plate** |
| **lens** | a **glass, or plastic disc, which focuses the light** as it enters the camera |
| **roll-film/film** | a thin, **see-through material on a roll inside the camera and coated with chemicals** which change when exposed to light |
| **expose/ exposure** | **allowing light onto the photographic film** inside a camera |
| **shutter** | like a small door in the camera which **controls the amount of light which is let in** |
| **develop** | the process of **turning the image recorded on film in a camera into a negative** |
| **negative** | a photographic **image showing the light and darks the opposite way** round from the image recorded on the film |
| **print** | the **final photograph printed on paper from a negative** (many prints can be made from one negative) |
| **Kodak** | the **American company which developed the first small box camera** |
| **photomontage** | a **collage made up of photographs** |
| **documentary photography** | photography **used to record events which may be historically importan**t as well as relating to everyday life |
| **abstract** | art (including photography) that **does not attempt to represent reality** |
| **framing** | the **act of deciding what image is inside the frame, or edges of the photograph** |
| **panning** | **moving a camera horizontally** while taking a picture |
| **viewfinder** | a **square or rectangular box**, like a frame, which **is used to frame a composition** |
| **composition** | the **arrangement of different elements** (like shape, colour, light) which make up a work of art, including photographs: compositional devices which can help photographers include the rule of thirds, leading lines and using negative space |

## photographs of people
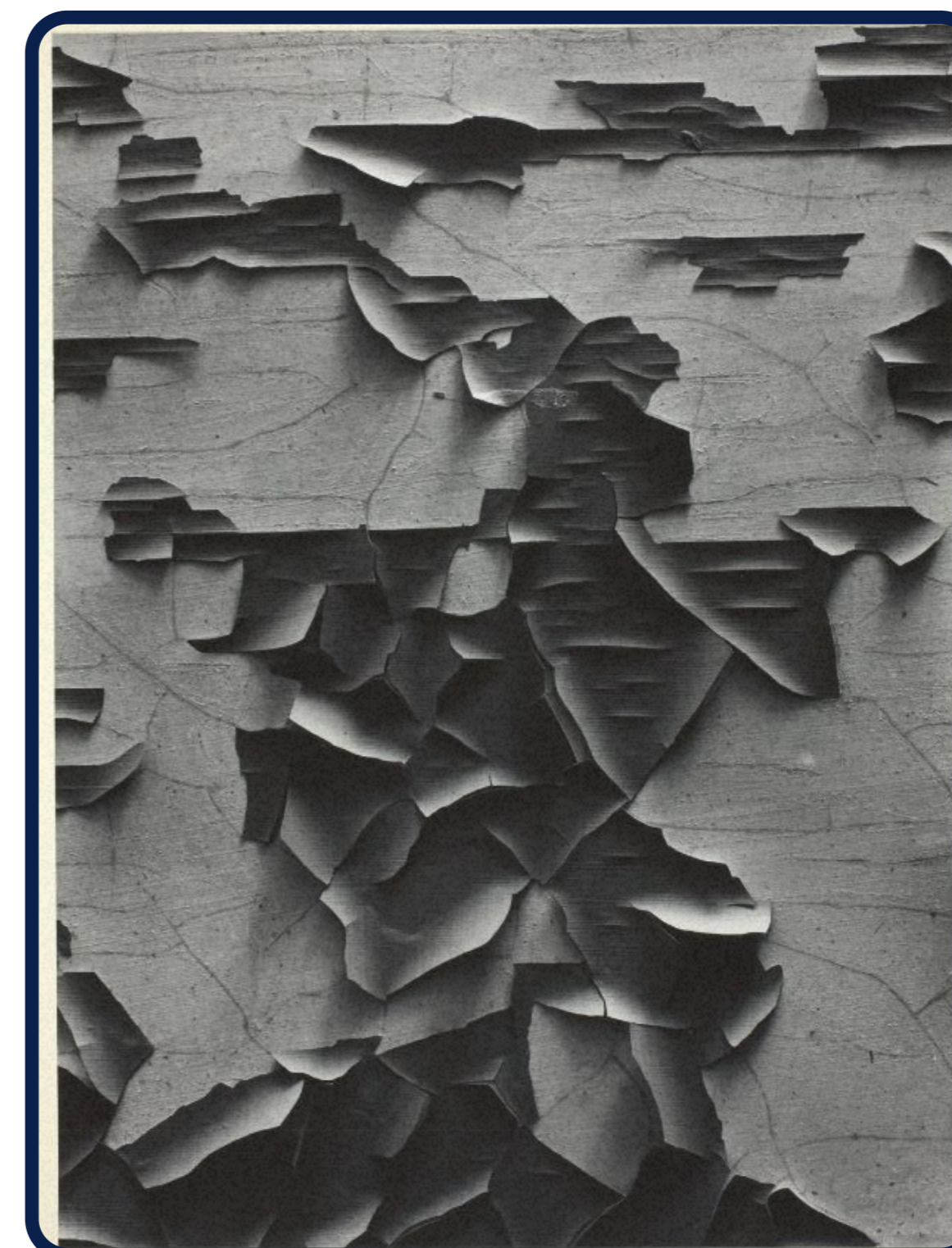
**Man Ray**

Glass Tears (1932)

**Dorothea Lange**

Migrant Mother (1936)

**Jason Evans**

[no title] 1991

© Jason Evans, stylist Simon Foxton

## abstract photography

**Aaron Siskind**

Peeling Paint, Jerome, Arizona (1949)