

Visual Text Analysis Worksheet:

Adapted from "Photo Analysis Worksheet" created by Education Staff, National Archives and Records Administration

OBSERVE:

Step 1: Study the image as a whole for 2 minutes. Write down your initial impressions and reactions.

- People living in bad conditions/very poor
- Woman in front is kneeling to kiss her baby
- Everyone looks very happy for not having much
- Bright colors match the mood of the photo
- Focus is on the woman and her child - everything in back is blurry and doesn't matter

Step 2: Divide the image into quadrants. Study each quadrant for 1 minute. What new details become visible?

Quadrant 1:

- **Busy men in back working on something**
- **Everyone is working with what they have and trying to get the best for themselves and their families**
- **Everyone looks fairly relaxed**

Quadrant 2:

- **Similar to first quadrant**
- **There is another mother and it looks like she is sorting some sort of food/grass item**

Quadrant 3:

- **The woman has brightly colored, very beautiful pants**
- **Can't quite tell but looks like it's the same material as the baby's bed**
- **She probably made her own pants**

Quadrant 4:

- **The mother and her baby - mother obviously loves baby a lot**
- **Looking closely it appears that the mother isn't smiling**
 - **Shows that although the love is real, she feels that it is draining herself to put so much love into something and she is exhausted**

Step 3: Use the chart to list people, objects, and activities in the image:

People	Objects	Activities
Woman in front	Baby's bed	Kissing the baby
Baby	Recycling bin	Sorting grains
5 Men in back	Baskets	Talking in the back
Woman crouching in back	Wheelbarrow	Relaxing

	Various hanging fabrics	
--	-------------------------	--

INFER:

Step 4: Based on what you have observed, list 3 things you could infer from this image:

- The woman is a single mother
- The woman is struggling to support her child
- The woman in the back is very poor

ASK & ANSWER:

Step 5: What questions does this image raise in your mind? What do you need to know to understand the image? Where could you look? Pick the most important question and use the web to research the answer. Record your findings and source here.

This image makes me ask many questions, but one that is ringing loudly is what is the percentage of children in Africa with a single parent?

One CNN article I read said that in Africa, 72% of children are born without a father around. The writer of the article said that this absence of a father figure or male role model for these african children leads directly to crime and prison.

INTERPRET:

Write an original, interpretive statement about what message or idea the photo delivers (2-3 sentences)

Although, many Africans greatly fear the risk of ebola from even family members, some things are worth the risk for love. Everyone in this image appears to be doing the best with what they have and trying to maintain a successful life. The baby is the most important thing in the world to this woman and you can see the passion and how far she would go to make sure he or she is safe.