From Snapshots to Photography (Youtube video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAsBG5zCYqM&feature=em-share_video_user

0-1:05 Introduction

1. Lenses:
    a. 50 mm normal perspective
        i. Everything is realistic.
    b. 9:50, 13:00 Wide angle (35 mm or lower)
        i. **Put something in the foreground**
        ii. Anything near the camera gains added emphasis – IT GETS MUCH LARGER
        iii. If you have something you want to emphasize put is close to the a wide angle lens
        iv. Has a large depth of field. It gives a sense of place because you can see the background clearly. **Can do a portrait to show a sense of place but need to get close to the person.**
        v. Get really close to something to emphasis it.
        vi. WATCH THE VIEWFINDER CAREFULLY, minimize distracting information in the background.
    c. 10:10, 27:00Telephoto (85-300 mm)
        1. Used for portraits… compress face especially the nose (85 – 135 mm)
        2. Isolates the subject because of the short depth of field…pleasing out of focus background
        3. **Put subject off center.**
        4. Can do landscapes to bring far away items up close to foreground.
            a. Mountains behind trees
    d. Super telephoto: 300 mm and greater
    e. Macro lenses are 1:1
        i. Good edge to edge sharpness
        ii. Can be used as a standard lens
2. 53:40 What catches the eye?
    a. Brightest object in the composition
        i. Bright objects in the background are distracting. They draw the eye away from the subject.
    b. Sharpest object in the composition
        i. Makes sure the subject is the most in focus
            1. Can have some items out of focus, BUT MAKE SURE THE SUBJECT IS IN FOCUS. (had a number of people in the photograph but one in focus…he is what catches the eye.)
            2. Three glass articles but the one in focus catches the eye. The remaining objects give a sense of place but the one in focus catches the eye.

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        c. Geometric shapes
- i. Strongest ATTRACTANTS…look for these elements first then choose the subject.
    1. Square
    2. Circles…eyes are drawn to circles
    3. Equilateral **triangles**
        - i. Old buildings can have these features
- ii. Weaker shapes
    1. Rectangles
    2. Parallelograms
    3. Ovals
    4. Non-equilateral triangles
    5. Other shapes

        d. People
- i. Drawn to eyes. PUT IN THE UPPER 1/3.
- ii. Shoot odd number of people rather than even. TRY TO SHOOT PEOPLE IN TRIANGLE ARRANGEMENTS.
- iii. People should face into the picture

        e. Motion
- i. Person jumping in the air (**freeze the action**). You don't often see people suspended in the air.
- ii. Can have **motion blur**.

3. Composition
        a. Rule of thirds…put subject where the lines cross or outside the lines.
- i. **Never put subject in the center rectangle**.
- ii. Never put horizon across the center
    1. Put the most important part in the 2/3 part and the less important in the other 1/3.
    2. Put things in the center that are of little consequence.

        b. Negative space…draws the eye to the subject, especially if the negative space is on one side.

        c. Balance elements take two strong elements and balance them against each other.
- i. Barn and wagon wheels
- ii. Horse with barn
- iii. Lady with mural

        d. Symmetry…things that are equal on both sides. Can break the rule of thirds when using symmetry.
- i. Doors same size on opposite sides
- ii. "tunnel" of trees
- iii. Old car from the front

        e. Diagonal…arrange things in a row moving away from you. Shoot at an angle to get the items in a diagonal from front to back
- i. Shoot items in diagonals across the image.
    1. Waves along the beach

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       f. Disequilibrium
           i. Shoot at odd angles
       g. Depth of field…**brings eye to the subject in focus**
           i. The out of focus acts like negative space.
           ii. Can minimize a subject by putting it in the center and out of focus

4. Make it look three dimensional
    a. Put something in the foreground
        i. Reeds in foreground
    b. Leading lines…force the eye to the subject
        i. Fences
        ii. Roads
        iii. Walls

5. Framing
    a. Can break the rule of thirds with framing
        i. Branches in the foreground
        ii. Frame buildings with other buildings
    b. Look for background items to frame subjects (people)

6. Fill the frame
    a. With patterns
    b. Clothing items…focus on the important items on the clothing

7. Patterns and textures.
    a. Interesting decorations
    b. Can make patterns interesting by breaking up pattern with ONE object.

8. Watch the background. Don't have things growing out of people's heads.