

## Assessing with Primary Sources

**Grade Level:** 6

**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.6: Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.3: Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

### Library of Congress Resources:



Migrant agricultural worker's family. Seven hungry children. Mother aged thirty-two. Father is native Californian. Nipomo, California. By photographer Dorothea Lange. Feb. or March 1936.

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3b06165/>

### Topic Background:

In the 1930s, disaster struck the southwestern Great Plains region of the United States. In the heartland of the U.S., poor soil conservation practices and extreme weather conditions exacerbated the existing misery of the Great Depression and instigated the largest migration in American history.

Excerpted from:

[http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/dust-bowl-migration/pdf/teacher\\_guide.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/dust-bowl-migration/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf)

### Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is a picture of a migrant agricultural worker's family during the Dust Bowl. The picture shows Florence Thompson with several of her children in a tent shelter. It depicts how hard life was during the Dust Bowl. The family looks unhealthy.

### Answer Key:

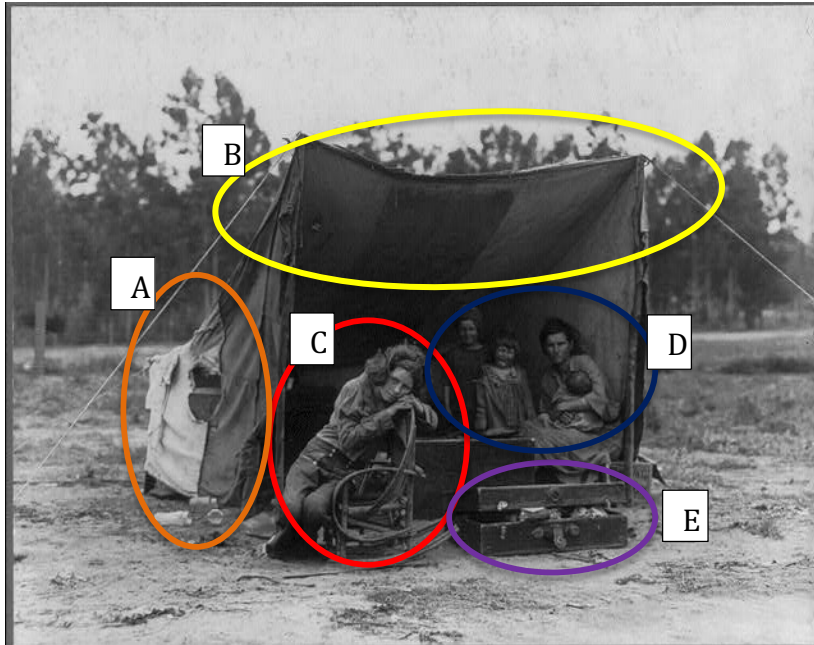
Question 1: A

Question 2: C

**Directions:** Look at the following image and answer the questions that follow.

### Dust Bowl

Migrant agricultural worker's family. Seven hungry children. Mother aged thirty-two. Father is native Californian. Nipomo, California, Feb. or March 1936.



**Question 1:** Which statement best represents the author's point of view in this picture?  
(CCSS.RI.6.6)

- A. The Dust Bowl caused many families to go hungry and have many hardships.
- B. The Dust Bowl was an opportunity for many people to go camping regularly.
- C. The Dust Bowl was a period in which most people had a lot of money.
- D. The Dust Bowl caused families to go into separate directions.

**Question 2:** Draw your attention to the areas in the **circles**. How does the author of this picture show that the Dust Bowl was during a hard economical time in the U.S. history?  
(CCSS.RI.6.3)

- A. The author used the areas in B and E circles.
- B. The author used the areas in C and A circles.
- C. The author used the areas in C, D, and B circles.
- D. The author used the areas in A, E, and D circles.