



JUDGE'S COMMENTS: September 2021 – Tell a story Judged by Darryl Whitaker

Sequence by title	Member Number	Title of image	Judge's comments
1	326	All clear	Good story telling. It's obvious what's happening. Keep lenses and sensors clean.
2	325	Big foot	Great subject matter. Certainly, tells me a story. Maybe needed to play with the angle a bit, maybe lower to give the shot a touch more interest.
3	431	Coffee break in the Royal Arcade	I like the post-processing here. It gives the image a nice mood. No-one appears to be enjoying their coffee.
4	326	Coming through	Your timing is good. The vessel is passing under the raised bridge. A different point of view with a clearer view of the action would be better; no trees etc.
5	399	Defending the family	Well timed, having the adult bird with the wings out with the chicks behind and seeing the intruder in the background.
6	770	Engrossed	Unfortunately, with these images we only get half of the story, we have no idea what the model is looking at, though she does appear to be enjoying it.
7	431	It's a long way to the top	Good story, the wide angle gives us a great sense of scale. Bring in a bit closer and shooting more upwards to give us even more scale.
8	487	Just a quick stop	Commended Great story, take the dog for a walk to the newsagent, have a rest on the way back and read the paper. I like the location and the way we can see all the man's face. Cropping most of the brick wall on the left out would balance the image a bit better, still well done.
9	325	Last drinks	Good story, poor pub. I wish you had been there a bit earlier to get more action and maybe some flames of black smoke and a few firefighters running around.
10	770	Little herder	Nice image, closer to the boy with a wide-angle lens would give more impact.
11	641	Look Dad	The bridge gives us great horizontal lines which gives the image extra interest. All we needed was a fish or an old boot being reeled in with the girl pointing to it.
12	326	Many stories	Good use of monochrome. The big issue here is the tractor blends into the rest of the scene too much. It needs to stand out. A lower angle and shallower depth of field would help.

13	866	More water required	Commended Tells the story perfectly, as a yachty this is something we never want to see. The man standing on the sand looking down sets the scene off perfectly. I may have gone in tighter on him.
14	399	Past the keeper	Commended Yep, every keeper's worst nightmare. Good you used a fast shutter speed to freeze all the action including the ball.
Sequence	Member Number	Title of image	Comments
15	431	Playtime	Highly commended This is a lovely image, great interaction with the 2 children especially the little girl keeping her eyes fixed on her brother. Well done.
16	487	Pretend it's a bone	The dog looks more likely to bite the hands that's not feeding him. He's not in the slightest bit interested in what is being offered.
17	447	No shoes, no worries (print)	Commended Not sure why he is only wearing socks, but this image has a lot going for it. Good monochrome, excellent tonality from white to black. I do like the footprints across the frame with the guy on the far left leaving frame. Great shot.
18	447	Why so unhappy? (print)	Another good use of monochrome. Good composition with the couple on the right thirds. The image just lacks some reason for the unhappiness.
19	326	Pumpkin	This is more of a family snap than a competition image. The reaction of the boy offers nothing and the pumpkin is a very small part of the image.
20	325	Race day	The key to shooting race cars is to show motion, you have done that here but the motion is the wrong way around. The cars should be sharp and the background blurred. Practice your panning skills.
21	487	Ready to go	The equipment is ready but where is the fisher person?
22	487	Should we have a Covid test?	Highly commended An excellent piece of street photography. Love the dynamics of all three ladies, one having a smoke, one telling the story and the last looking less that happy about what she's hearing.
23	399	Skaters	Love the caring grandfather? Timing is everything, grandad has his hand out but what would top it off is if the girl was taking granddads hand completing the interaction between them.
24	325	Smoko	The lady on the left thinks the cup of tea tastes like the sign above her head. Please be mindful that all participants need to have an appropriate expression for the image to have maximum effect.
25	641	So cold	Looks cold, feels cold. The people hanging onto their hats really tells the story. Ask them to pose for the

			camera. This would give the image much more impact.
26	866	State library studying	One of Melbourne's most beautiful buildings, especially the inside. Because it's so popular (especially with photographers) we see the same shot many, many times. We sometimes need to find a different angle or different approach to make it more interesting.
27	869	Storm defences	Commended Good shot, we do get the story and your technical elements are spot on.
Sequence	Member Number	Title of image	Comments
28	866	Storm front	Another technically correct image with a good drama with the storm. Something in the foreground would help, maybe a farmer watching the storm approaching or some machinery.
29	431	Summer afternoon in Amsterdam	Lots of good elements in the image, the canal, sunny day, young people sitting on the bank, the boat and the classic Amsterdam bicycles. We need to be in closer to something, a foreground, maybe reposition and use the bikes as your foreground interest.
30	399	Testing time	A classic story of our times. The Walk-in testing sign is key to the image but unfortunately the people are lined up on the other side which separates them, good try though.
31	770	Waiting	Good street photography, these scenes are what street photographers are looking for. The lady is my hero, sitting between the 2 guys, nice touch. Your processing needs work. Your shadows have been filled in too much, we need black to white in a mono. Bring the exposure down at least 1 full stop.
32	641	What do you think?	Nice story, love the dogs. The wave in the background is a key element.
33	770	Wow	The expression on the face doesn't suggest the title. These angles are not usually flattering to the models.