

# Column A

# Column B



1. Image by Larry C. Price.



4. Image by George Steinmetz.



2. Image by Larry C. Price.



5. Image by George Steinmetz.



3. Image by Larry C. Price.



6. Image by George Steinmetz.

These materials were created to support “[Losing Earth](#)” by Nathaniel Rich and George Steinmetz, published in *The New York Times Magazine* August 1, 2018. You can find this and more educational resources at [www.pulitzercenter.org/nytclimate](http://www.pulitzercenter.org/nytclimate)

## Instructions:

### Step 1.

For each photo set (Column A and Column B), identify:

1. What is the main idea? (What information do you think the journalist is trying to convey?) Support your answer with evidence from the photos (be specific!).
2. What feelings do you get from looking at the photos? What elements of the photos are causing those feelings?
3. What are the major differences between the two photo sets? Name at least 5.

### Step 2.

Select one photo from the column of your choice. Write a caption for the photo. Your caption should have all of these components:

1. **Where** was this photo taken?
2. **Who** and/or **what** is in this photo?
3. **What** is happening in this photo?
4. **When** was this photo taken?
5. **Why** was this photo taken? (What makes it newsworthy?)

After writing your photo caption, take a look at its real caption (page 3). How does your caption compare? What new information do you learn?

## Captions:

1. Deni Riswandani pushes his canoe filled with scavenged trash toward his village on the banks of the Citarum River. Demi travels up to eight miles a day on the polluted river to collect plastic and other recyclables. Image by Larry C. Price. Indonesia, 2016.
2. Women and young girls carry scavenged coal from the bottom of the Alkusha Coalfield. Image by Larry C. Price. India, 2016.
3. A barefoot worker stands inside an 8-foot tall tumbling drum filled with chromium (III) sulfate and other chemicals. Workers often have to crawl inside the drums to remove hides. Image by Larry C. Price. Bangladesh, 2016.
4. When Hurricane Harvey struck Texas last summer, record rainfall caused catastrophic flooding. In six days, as much as 60 inches of rain fell, leaving at least 68 people dead and \$125 billion in damage. One study found that climate change has made cataclysmic rain events like Harvey three times as common as they were. Harvey was a particularly slow-moving hurricane, making it significantly more destructive: The storm stood still and drenched already flood-prone areas. “There’s a good chance another event like Harvey will happen again,” said Adam Sobel, the director of Columbia University’s Initiative on Extreme Weather and Climate. “This is the kind of thing we expect to see more and more, even if we stop emitting carbon today.” Image by George Steinmetz. United States, 2017.
5. The Antarctic Peninsula, where about three million pairs of penguins breed, is one of the most quickly warming areas on the planet; its average temperature has increased by five degrees Fahrenheit over the past 75 years. Many scientists believe that this warming will endanger some penguin colonies in two ways: dwindling food and loss of nesting habitats. On the rocky shores of Deception Island, where the penguins breed, they need cold, dry land for their eggs to survive, but rising temperatures have introduced rain and pools of water to nesting sites. And because of the rapid loss of sea ice, krill — the tiny crustaceans that serve as penguins’ main source of food — can’t sustain the large colonies they need to thrive. The penguin population of Baily Head, in the northern part of Antarctica, seems to have dropped from 85,000 breeding pairs in 2003 to 52,000 seven years later, a decline of almost 40 percent. Scientists fear that as warm water shifts farther south along other coastal regions, larger populations of penguins could face a similar decline. Image by George Steinmetz. Antarctica, 2017.
6. Last year’s monsoons, which typically run from June through September, were the worst in 40 years, and more than eight million Bangladeshis were affected by the devastation. At least 145 people died, an estimated 307,000 people were forced into emergency shelters, 700,000 homes were damaged or destroyed and about a third of Bangladesh was submerged. Areas along the Bay of Bengal, long prone to chronic flooding, have become increasingly uninhabitable. Scientists believe that a sharp rise in the bay’s surface temperature is why Bangladesh has suffered some of the fastest sea-level rises in the world. Some project a five-foot rise by 2100, which could displace 50 million people. Image by George Steinmetz. Bangladesh, 2018.