

THREE-STEP UNIT OPENER ROUTINE

Step I: Introduce

- Have students **open their books** to the **Unit Opener** page.
- Have them scan the page quickly to look at **photographs** and other **text or graphic elements**.
- Read or have a student read the unit title aloud.
- Ask questions such as the following:

What do you see in the picture?
What do you think this unit is about?
Where do you think this picture was taken?
When do you think the picture was taken?
Why do you think the photographer took this picture?

Step 2: Practice

- Have **partners or small groups** work together to complete the **Unit Opener activity**.
- Have students **share** their responses and thoughts with the class.

Step 3: Apply

• Have students **personalize** the activity by asking themselves questions such as:

How does this picture make you feel? *What* do you see that makes you say that?

• Encourage students to go beyond the image and create their own narratives about it. Have them **write or draw** responses to questions such as

What story does this photograph tell? What happened before? What happened after?

• Remind them to use **Word webs**, **Venn diagrams**, or other **graphic organizers** as needed to gather information about the Unit Opener photograph and their narratives.