Dust Bowl Assessment

Name: ________________________________________
Date:__________________________________________

1) What is going on in this picture? How would you describe the scene to someone who is not looking at it directly?
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2) What is the mood of the picture? What do you see that makes you say that?
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3) What story do you think the artist is trying to tell? How does the artist tell the story?
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4) Draw one item that is broken or falling apart in the picture.
How would you describe this scene to someone who was not looking at it directly?

there is many piles of sand with
sagged peices of wood sticking
out there is a run down looking house with
a windmill next to the house, there is
a broken looking car, there are also windmills
in the background there is a thin weak looking
fence, there are also trees laying by the
house, there is a shovel next to the car, and arrow

What is the mood of the picture? What do you see that makes you say that?

The mood of the picture is lonely. I think it's because every thing looks
run down or weak and broken, and it also
looks like the owner just left
every thing in its place. Also the
sky looks dark and cloudy and every
thing looks buried.

What story do you think the artists is trying to tell?

how hard it was for people to live
in this time and place because people couldn't
grow stuff and the water would be bad
because it would be full of mud, and someone
would probably get sick by breathing the air.
Sky sparkled blue
Clear
Rare sunny day
But something wasn’t right
Rabbits sprinted by
Birds screeched
Heading south
Horses pawed
Cows paced
Hair stood on end
Crackling with electricity
Blue sparks flashed
Then,
Terrible wall of blackness
Dust blocked the sun
Temperature dropped
50 degrees
Birds tumbled from the sky
People searching for shelter
Oxygen-starved
Houses collapsed
Buried the roads
People suffocated
Dust clogged mouths
Blind in the thick grit
Edge like steel wool
Tractors disappeared
Farmers abandoned land
Others waited hopefully
Rain
Dorothea Lange

*Migrant agricultural worker's family. Seven hungry children. Mother aged 32, the father is a native Californian. Destitute in a pea pickers camp because of the failure of the early pea crop. These people had just sold their tent in order to buy food. Most of the 2,500 people in this camp were destitute. Nipomo, California, 1936*
Dorothea Lange
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Dear Conrady,

I learned a lot and when I saw the pictures I was sad because the picture made me sad and if was then I would say can you help me! If I see a bus I would say the same thing. But I learned about the dust bowl and a lot about the people that was in the picture and her kids in the picture looked sick and I was glad someone out where I was I would kill them and put them in the sun and make them out of medicine food, clothes, blankets and they gave me a good I

From: Tandra
I think the mother is thinking like: what did this have to happen to me and my kids. And she is thinking God please give us hope and food and safety. Plus I think she is in shock like she can't believe this.
(Backpack Exercise - What Would You Take)

If I had to leave and I could only bring a backpack full of stuff, here's my list:

1. My Dog
2. Blow up mattress
3. Food / Dog food
4. My blanket
5. Clothes
6. Money
7. Shoes
8. First Aid kit
9. Doggy First Aid kit
10. My tent
11. 27.5 Pounds Water
12. Compass
13. Flashlight
14. Tea kettle
15. Soap