Worksheet I: Jewish Photographers on Photography

This is what some famous Jewish photographers have said about their art:

- Paul Strand 1890 – 1976: "It is one thing to photograph people; it is another thing to make others care about them by revealing the core of their humanness."

- Ben Shahn (also a painter) 1898 - 1969: "It is not just the artist's experience, but his values, his judgment…that live in the work of art and make it significant to the public."

- Robert Capa 1913 - 1954: "If your pictures aren't good enough, you're not close enough."

- Roman Vishniac (on photographing the Jewish community of Poland in the 1930s) 1897 - 1990: "I was unable to save my people, only their memory."

- Arnold Newman 1918-2006: "Inevitably there is a great deal of the photographer in his finished product. If there isn't much of him, then there isn't much of a portrait."

- Richard Avedon 1923 – 2004): "Sometimes I think all my pictures are just pictures of me."

Choose one quote and respond.

- What do you think this person is trying to say?

- Do you agree? Why or why not?