Migrant Mother Ms. Braden

Analyze photograph of *Migrant Mother* (1936) and answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What components of the image stand out?
2. Is there a sign of weakness or strength? Does the image appear posed?
3. Think about why the image was taken from the angle the photographer chose. Does it bring the viewer closer the subject? Are there details in the image that tell more of the story? Which elements bring up new questions?
4. Describe the expression on this woman’s face. How does she feel? What might she be thinking?
5. Speculate why the children turned their heads away from the camera.
6. Why might Dorothea Lange have decided to take such a close-up photograph?
7. Why do you think the government wanted to document the effects of the Great Depression in photographs rather just words and statistics?
8. This photograph was published in newspapers. How do you think Americans responded to it?