Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

I found this picture while searching for "airplanes" on nationalgeographic.com.

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? "Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc?)

This photo depicts a tiny, almost opaque looking plane flying at a very high altitude with trails of water that has gone through the process of condensation following behind it from its exhaust. The plane is about to disappear behind a very large, rectangular building that is primarily white with glass windows. There is also an older, more ornate and circular building that is much smaller than the larger building that exists in the picture. The sky appears completely clear and piercingly blue.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

The main theme of this picture is the limitedness and preciousness of time in humans' lives on earth. Although time is something infinite and will last forever until all of existence is destroyed, the lives of all living things on earth are remarkably short and quick in comparison. Humans created airplanes so they can conserve time, as it allows for them to travel relatively swiftly from place to place. Moreover, people are always searching for new and improved ways to travel and to be transported to places so that they can reduce the amount of time it takes to accomplish their goals and to fulfill their roles in society. Time is valuable because it is truly the only thing that restricts and limits humanity, and thus it can not be wasted.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

This photo was taken from someone standing on the ground and facing upwards towards the plane in the sky. Although the photographer may not have intended it, the new and the old building in the picture could represent the passing of time and progression, such as the development of the airplane.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q's? etc.)? "Poetic" Traits?

It is interesting to compare one of mankind's most beneficial innovations, the airplane, with a restriction on the capacity of humanity, but it is ultimately entirely true. Humans often act so indestructible and unlimited in their capabilities; however, time sets people in their places. Jim Rohn could not have expressed the limits of time better in his famous quote when he said, "Time is more valuable than money, you can get more money, but you cannot get more time." Here, Rohn is essentially displaying the preciousness of time by its comparison to something that never dies or ends. Money can always continuously be created or obtained, especially when one's time is spent usefully and effectively; however, once time is used, it is gone forever, much like the limited natural resources that are on earth. I find this concept of time running out quite poetic because it urges people to value and to enjoy every moment that they are privileged with the gift of life. Life is unfortunately not infinite.