



THE COMIC



SOME BRIEF DEFINITIONS

INTRODUCTION

- The word “Comic” comes from the Greek "Κωμικός", meaning "comedy“. It’s a graphic medium in which images are used to tell a story.
- It is a sequential narrative that causes the pictures to follow on from each other. The predominance of images over words distinguish comics from picture books, though there is some overlap between the two media. A comic is a visual way to tell a story. Frame to frame, this story has movement.
- Most comics combine words with images, often indicating speech in the form of word balloons.
- Many years ago, man felt the need to tell everybody his story, his fears and feelings.
- Nowadays it `s not so different than before. Society changes but the drawings go on talking with us.

Time of creation: the tools

- Comic artists will generally sketch a drawing in pencil before going over the drawing again in ink, using either a dip pens and nibs.
An artist might also choose to create with colours using: Brushes, watercolours, acrylics, markers... Of course, for creating lines and shapes there are T-squares, templates and rulers in general.
- Artists will also make use of a LIGHTBOX when creating the final image in ink.
- With the growth of ICT, there are now an increasing number of examples of comic books or strips where the drawings are made by using computers, either mixing it with hand drawings or replacing hand drawing completely. In these cases, the pen tablets are very useful.

TOOLS

- An artist will use a variety of pencils, paper, and a waterproof ink. When using ink, an artist may choose to use a variety of brushes, dip pens, a fountain pen or a variety of technical pens or markers.
- An artist might also choose to create using paint; either acrylics; gouache; poster paints; or watercolours. Colour can also be achieved through crayons, pastels or coloured pencils.
- Eraser, rulers, templates (stencils) , set squares and a T-square assist in creating lines and shapes..
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MAIN ELEMENTS



The comic strip is simply a sequence of cartoons which unite to tell a story within that sequence, and were originally known as strip cartoons

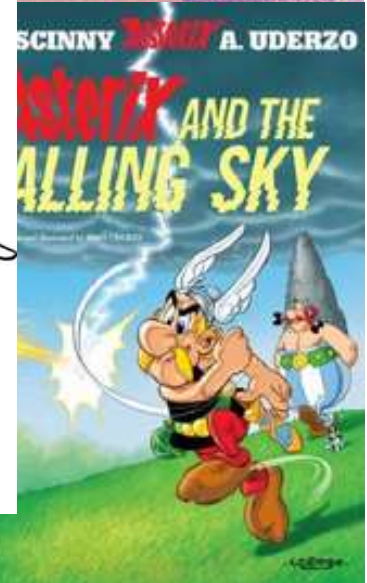


More elements...



- **Speech balloons** (also **speech bubbles**, **dialogue balloons**, or **word balloons**) are a graphic convention used most commonly in comic books, strips, and cartoons to allow words (and much less often, pictures) to be understood as representing the speech or thoughts of a given character in the comic.
- There is often a formal distinction between the balloon that indicates thoughts and the one that indicates words spoken aloud: the bubble that indicates subjective thoughts is often referred to as a **thought balloon**

Visual metaphors and Signs that express movement





- **Onomatopoeia** (also spelled **onomatopœia**, from Greek: ονοματοποιΐα) is a word or a grouping of words that imitates the sound it is describing, such as animal noises like "oink" or "meow", or suggesting its source object (these are the more important ones), such as "boom", "click", "bunk", "clang", "buzz", or "bang".

<http://www.slideshare.net/nathanr07/comic-examples-onomatopoeia/v1>



CHARACTERS



SUMMARY

- Definition: **The comic strip is simply a sequence of cartoons which unite to tell a story within that sequence, and were originally known as strip cartoons**
- TOOLS: Pencils, brushes, nibs, paper, waterproof ink, acrylic, gouaches, watercolors, erasers, rulers, t-square, templates, lightbox, poster paper..
- ELEMENTS
 - Frames
 - Speech baloon
 - Onomatopoeia
 - Visual metaphors
 - Signs that express movement
 - Characters

TASK

1. Put yourselves into groups of 3 .
2. You have to draw an comic about these topics: “Space travels” or “Changes in the climate”
3. The group has to think about the plot of the comic and to write the story.
4. Design characters, place, time,that is , drawing up your work . The comic should be 1 page at the longest.
5. Each student has a role to play: someone will write the texts, somebody else can draw the characters and someone else will paint the backgrounds.
6. You have 3 weeks to finish it.