

Graphic Novel & Comic Techniques

Draw your own mini comic and practice as you go through the Comic Creators Guide!

Part 1: The Basics	Part 2: The Words	Part 3: Art and Words Together
Panel: one box/piece of the story	Speech balloon	Color
Frame: the lines and borders around the panels	Caption Thought bubble/cloud	Graphic weight Hands and/or feet
Gutter: the gap/space between panels	Special effects lettering	Faces
Bleed: an image that extends to or beyond the edge of the page		

Other things to think about when creating your story:

flash-forwards, or pictures of a character's thoughts?

How will you divide up your story into panels? How many panels will you use?
What colors will you use? Will you have a color scheme with only specific colors?
How will you decide what parts of your story will be represented in words and what parts will be represented in pictures?
☐ How will you use a variety of captions, speech balloons, and special-effects lettering?
Does your story always need to be in order? Can you use pictures to represent flashbacks or