

Master Rubric

How To Make a Comic Book MOOC

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Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
STORY IDEA The story is a vital part of the creation process. Learners in the “How To Make A Comic Book” MOOC will need to create a story that will fill four 5.5 inch x 8.5 inch comic book pages.	A poor story will be lacking in structure, closure, intrigue, and originality.	The comic story is original but lacks in closure, intrigue and cohesive structure.	The comic story is original and provides closure, but lacks in intrigue & cohesive structure.	The comic story is original and provides closure, is intriguing and is structurally cohesive.
COMIC SCRIPT The comic script is specifically helpful before doing any artwork for the comic because it allows you to arrange the building blocks of the story in a linear order.	The comic script lacks a linear order, delineation of visual and word elements, and is difficult to read.	The comic script provides a linear order, but lacks in a delineation of visual and word elements, and is difficult to read.	The comic script provides a linear order and is easy to read but lacks in a delineation of visual and word elements.	The comic script provides a linear order and is easy to read, clearly delineates visual and word elements, story provides closure, and the story is easy to understand.
THUMBNAILS Thumbnails are small sketches of your comic done very quickly. Completing your thumbnails can allow you to work out image ideas within your comic before doing serious detail work.	Thumbnails are not clear, scattered, and do not show a visual plan for assembling the final comic.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic but are not clear, and are scattered.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic but are not as clear as they could be.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic and are crystal clear.
PENCILS Doing pencil sketches on your full sized pages allows you to work in a medium that is erasable and fixable before doing the final ink lines that will appear on your comic page.	Pencils are drawn quickly, dark, and are unrefined. They are not ready for inking.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically but are dark, and are unrefined. They are not ready for inking.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically and are light, but still need to be cleaned up in places.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically and are light and clean. They are ready for inking.
LETTERS Letters are a vital part of comic books because they allow you to communicate with your art using words.	Letters are drawn freehand, illegible, and are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out but are still eligible, but are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out and are illegible, but are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out and are legible and are drawn lightly - ready to be inked.
INKS If completed effectively, Inks allow your comic to be reproduced on mass without the need for colors. Inks cover both letters and pencils on your final comic page.	Inks (letters and art) are completed quickly, without varying line weights rendering the comic completely unreadable.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed too quickly making the comic slightly unreadable.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed with attention, but they could use some revisions before considered completely ready for print.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed within attention and are complete and ready for print.
FINAL COMIC PRESENTATION This is your final comic! At the end of this process you will have multiple copies to sell to an eager public audience of consumers.	Comic is unassembled and unready for printing multiple copies of.	Comic is assembled but is not ready for printing multiple copies of due to technical errors in the creation process.	Comic is assembled and is ready for printing multiple copies of - but could use some minor revisions before being printed on mass.	Comic is assembled and is ready for printing multiple copies of on mass!

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
STORY IDEA The story is a vital part of the creation process. Learners in the "How To Make A Comic Book" MOOC will need to create a story that will fill four 5.5 inch x 8.5 inch comic book pages.	A poor story will be lacking in structure, closure, intrigue, and originality.	The comic story is original but lacks in closure, intrigue and cohesive structure.	The comic story is original and provides closure , but lacks in intrigue & cohesive structure.	The comic story is original and provides closure , is intriguing and is structurally cohesive.

Post a two paragraph outline of an idea that you have for a short story capable of filling four comic book pages, each with four panels. Make sure to include a beginning, middle, and end of the story. Within your writing make sure you indicate how the entire story will fit into only four pages of comic art with only four panels on each page. [Click here to see a model](#) of a story that fulfills these parameters. Try and ask for specific feedback on it from your peers.

Example:

- *"I am submitting an idea for short about a dwarf who hates christmas because he is always mistaken for an Elf. This seemingly humorous concept is actually a vehicle to introduce the reader to the dangers of stereotyping and discrimination. I want comic to start off seeming funny and end with the reader having a new perspective on his/her attitudes towards others. I get how to start off the idea - showing the dwarf being mocked as an Elf at christmas time - but I am having a hard time coming up with an ending that fits into a four page, 16 panel, page count. Do you have any suggestions?"*

You will be graded, and grade your peers on the following elements:

- The provided story idea is **cohesive in structure (provides a clear beginning, middle, and end).** - YES/NO
- The story **provides some kind of closure.** *Closure is difficult to obtain. In order for the comic idea provided to be considered ready for submission the comic at the very least can not - under any circumstances - end with any kind of "to be continued" or hanging endings.* - YES/NO
- The **story can clearly be told in the span of 16 panels** (4 comic pages with 4 panels on each page). - YES/NO
- The comic **idea provided approaches originality** in some respect and is clearly **not a plagiarization** of another idea. - YES/NO
- **Open Feedback:** Please provide **kind, specific, and helpful feedback** for the creator of this idea. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner coming up with a better idea. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if there are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
COMIC SCRIPT The comic script is specifically helpful before doing any artwork for the comic because it allows you to arrange the building blocks of the story in a linear order.	The comic script lacks a linear order, delineation of visual and word elements, and is difficult to read.	The comic script provides a linear order, but lacks in a delineation of visual and word elements, and is difficult to read.	The comic script provides a linear order and is easy to read but lacks in a delineation of visual and word elements.	The comic script provides a linear order and is easy to read, clearly delineates visual and word elements, story provides closure, and story is easy to understand.

Resources for this assignment:

- [Script Worksheet Tutorial](#)
- [Script Worksheet](#)
- [Model Script](#) (Completed script worksheet for reference)

A couple important notes on the script worksheet: You do not need to use the worksheet in order to complete this assignment. Even casual glance at two or three different comic scripts from [the comic script archive](#) renders the realization that there is no "right" way to make a comic book script. Everyone does it differently, so can you.

That being said, this worksheet has been put together for those who have never written a comic script before. The worksheet will help you delineate between the different elements in each panel in the way actual comic book writers write comic scripts. It will help you start to see the linear order that comic book scripts need to present information so that the story, in the end, is cohesive to the reader.

If you are going to use the comic book script tutorial and worksheets follow these directions:

1. Read the [tutorial](#)
2. Print out 4 copies of the [worksheet](#)
3. Fill them out
4. Scan the worksheets and make them into a .pdf ([Here are some instructions on how to do that if you don't know how.](#))
5. Submit the finished pages, in one .pdf ([merge them](#)), here for peer review.
6. Review your peers

If you decide not to use the worksheets (though I would encourage you not to go this route):

1. Reference the [second page of the model](#)
2. write your script in a similar format within [Google Docs](#), or some other service that will allow you to back up your work and keep track of revisions ([Read about google docs "Revision History" tool.](#))
3. [Copy and paste](#) your script from your word editor to the text entry window below and submit to peer review.

Rubrics:

- [Master Rubric](#)
- [Script Rubric](#)

Grading Instructions for Comic Script:

1. Comic script provides a linear order of information to the reader - YES/NO
2. Comic script is easy to read - YES/NO
3. Comic clearly delineates visual and word elements - YES/NO
4. Story is easy to understand - YES/NO

5. Story provides closure (*i.e. does not end on any kind of "to be continued" plot line that requires additional pages in order to be complete. The [comic script in the model](#) provides an acceptable minimum of closure for this assignment.*) - YES/NO
6. **Open Feedback:** Please provide kind, specific, and helpful feedback for the creator. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner refining their work. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if there are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
THUMBNAILS Thumbnails are small sketches of your comic done very quickly. Completing your thumbnails can allow you to work out image ideas within your comic before doing serious detail work.	Thumbnails are not clear, scattered, and do not show a visual plan for assembling the final comic.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic but are not clear, and are scattered.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic but are not as clear as they could be.	Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic and are crystal clear.

Resources for this assignment:

- [Thumbnail Tutorial](#)- This is a tutorial for how to use the thumbnail worksheet
- [Thumbnail Worksheet](#)- This is a printable worksheet for them to work off of
- [Model Thumbnails](#)- This is a completed worksheet example

A couple important notes on the thumbnailing worksheet: While you do not need to use the worksheet in order to complete this assignment, we would suggest it for the sake of this course. The four mini-pages within the thumbnailing work sheet are scaled models of your page. The final comic page is design to fit on one half of a folded piece of standard American copy paper (American copy paper is 8.5 inches x 11 inches, folded it is 8.5 inches by 5.5 inches - the comic page worksheets for this course as scaled to fit on a final piece of folded paper.)

Follow these directions:

1. Read the [tutorial](#)
2. Print out 1 copy of the [worksheet](#)
3. Fill it out according to the directions in the tutorial.
4. Scan the worksheet and make them into a .pdf ([Here are some instructions on how to do that if you don't know how.](#))
5. Submit the finished pages here for peer review.

Rubrics:

- [Thumbnail Rubric](#)
- [Master Rubric](#)

You will be graded, and grade your peers on the following elements:

- Thumbnails show a visual plan for assembling the final comic - YES/NO
- The thumbnails include visual elements that clearly flow from panel to panel - YES/NO
- The thumbnails include visual elements that clearly flow from page to page - YES/NO
- Word bubbles are present in the thumbnails - YES/NO
- Notes are included that indicate the artist's thought process when solving visual problems in the comic - YES/NO
- Please provide kind, specific, and helpful feedback for the creator. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner refining their work. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if there are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
PENCILS Doing pencil sketches on your full sized pages allows you to work in a medium that is erasable and fixable before doing the final ink lines that will appear on your comic page.	Pencils are drawn quickly, dark, and are unrefined. They are not ready for inking.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically but are dark, and are unrefined. They are not ready for inking.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically and are light, but still need to be cleaned up in places.	Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically and are light and clean. They are ready for inking.
LETTERS Letters are a vital part of comic books because they allow you to communicate with your art using words.	Letters are drawn freehand, illegible, and are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out but are still eligible, but are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out and are illegible, but are drawn too darkly.	Letters are measured out and are legible and are drawn lightly - ready to be inked.

You are going to create pencils & letters for your comic.

Resources for this assignment:

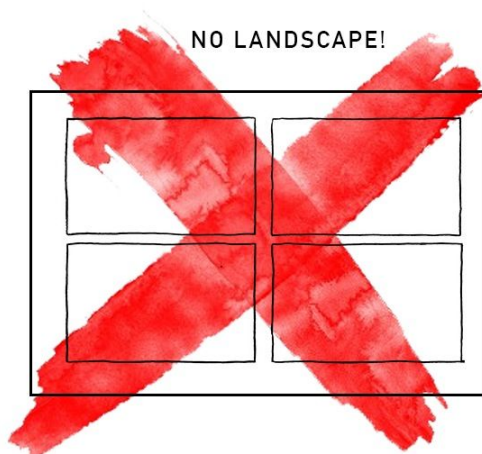
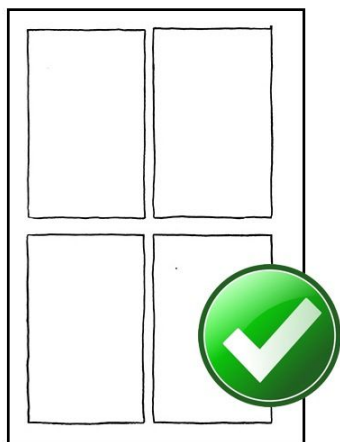
- [Penciling Tutorial](#)
- [Lettering Tutorial](#)
- [Penciling/Letters/Inks Worksheet](#)

Rubrics:

- [Pencils & Letters Rubric](#)
- [Master Rubric](#)

A couple important notes on the comic page worksheet: As indicated in the thumbnail assignment, the comic page worksheet is scaled to be bigger than 5.5 inches x 8.5 inches (standard American copy paper/Letter format). It is very important that you do your final art on this worksheet in order for it to come together as a final comic story with the materials provided. Because the final page of art will be smaller than the worksheet you are working on, be sure to draw bigger than you think you need to - for art and lettering.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE!



Follow these directions:

1. Read the tutorials
2. Print out 4 copies of the comic page worksheet
3. Fill it out according to the directions in the tutorial.
4. Scan the worksheets and make them into a .pdf ([Here are some instructions on how to do that if you don't know how.](#))
5. Submit the finished pages, in one .pdf ([merge them](#)), here for peer review.
6. Grade classmates on their work.

You will be graded, and grade your peers, on the following elements:

- Pencils are drawn slowly & methodically - YES/NO
- Pencils are light and clean - YES/NO
- Pencils are ready for inking - YES/NO
- Letters are measured out - YES/NO
- Letters are legible - YES/NO
- Letters are drawn lightly - ready to be inked - YES/NO
- Please provide kind, specific, and helpful feedback for the creator. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner refining their work. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if there are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
INKS If completed effectively, Inks allow your comic to be reproduced on mass without the need for colors. Inks cover both letters and pencils on your final comic page.	Inks (letters and art) are completed quickly, without varying line weights rendering the comic completely unreadable.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed too quickly making the comic slightly unreadable.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed with attention, but they could use some revisions before considered completely ready for print.	Inks (letters and art) have varying line weights but are completed with attention and are complete and ready for print.

Resources for this assignment:

- [Inks Tutorial](#)
- [Penciling/Letters/Inks Worksheet](#)

Rubrics:

- [Inks Rubric](#)
- [Master Rubric](#)

A couple important notes on the comic page worksheet: The thing that is important with inking is to take your time. Practice your lines before committing them to paper. Also, there is no need to erase you pencils as you will be able to get rid of them in photoshop/GIMP later.

Follow these directions:

1. Read the tutorials
1. Fill out your worksheets that you have already penciled and inked according to the directions in the tutorial.
2. Scan the worksheets and make them into a .pdf ([Here are some instructions on how to do that if you don't know how.](#))
3. Submit the finished pages, in one .pdf ([merge them](#)), here for peer review.
4. Review your classmates using the criteria below

You will be graded, and grade your peers on the following elements:

- Inked letters are clear - YES/NO
- Inked art is easy to read - YES/NO
- Inked art has varying line weights - YES/NO
- All inks are completed with attention - YES/NO
- All inks (art and letters) are complete and ready for print - YES/NO
- Please provide kind, specific, and helpful feedback for the creator. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner refining their work. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if their are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.

Criteria	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
FINAL COMIC PRESENTATION This is your final comic! At the end of this process you will have multiple copies to sell to an eager public audience of consumers.	Comic is unassembled and unready for printing multiple copies of.	Comic is assembled but is not ready for printing multiple copies of due to technical errors in the creation process.	Comic is assembled and is ready for printing multiple copies of - but could use some minor revisions before being printed on mass.	Comic is assembled and is ready for printing multiple copies of on mass!

Resources for this assignment:

- [Final Assembly Tutorial](#)
- [Penciling/Letters/Inks Worksheet](#)
- ["Protest Rap"](#)- a four page model using the templates that supporting materials are based on

Rubrics:

- [Final Assembly Rubric](#)
- [Master Rubric](#)

A couple important notes on the comic page worksheet: Assembling this section requires a lot of steps. If you are confused AT ALL please contact help through the discussion area or subreddit. If both of those areas prove to be not getting you ahead, please contact me directly at pyurick@hightechhigh.org and I will do my best to assist you.

Follow these directions:

1. Read the tutorial
2. Assemble your comic together
3. Take a [selfie](#) with your assembled final comic.
4. Upload the selfie to Coursera.
5. Write a reflection of what you have learned that is at least 1 paragraph long.

You will be graded, and grade your peers on the following elements:

- Comic is assembled - YES/NO
- All pages are included in comic - YES/NO
- Comic clearly can be copied to be printed on mass - YES/NO
- Comic is on an 8.5inch x 11inch standard American copy paper - YES/NO
- Selfie shows printed comic with its creator - YES/NO
- Reflection after posting final work demonstrates learning and change completed by the learner through the tenure of this course - YES/NO
- Please provide kind, specific, and helpful feedback for the creator. Remember that this is an early attempt to create and that your feedback is pivotal in the process of this learner refining their work. If you graded the learner a "no" on any of the answers above, use this space to indicate why and if there are any suggestions you have for improvement for their next draft.