



## Section I. Project Overview

**Making Comics Worldwide**  
**Project:** Comic Relief Project  
**Subjects:** English Language Arts  
**Grade Level:** 9th Grade (High School)

**24** PROJECT TIME  
 24 HOURS MINIMUM NEEDED

### Project Idea

In the span of 24 hours of class time, students in groups of four will create a four-page comic and supporting personal essay that highlights a current event from the news headlines of today. Resulting comics will then be part of a published book entitled "Comic Relief" that will exist digitally and in print.

### How is this applicable?

Students are saturated with news stories that aim to sensationalize the truth. In the Comic Relief Project, students will be tasked with examining these stories critically and interviewing a member of the community about their perspective. Students will then take an excerpt from the interview and create a four-page comic. By reinterpreting news stories into comics, students will demonstrate understanding, compassion, and empathy to the interviewees as well as the participants in the original news story.

### Deliverables:

- ★ Each student will produce a page of comic art that fits into a four page story.
- ★ Each student will complete a written reflection to be attached to the comic.
- ★ The entire class will produce an comic anthology that will be printed as a zine.

### Why comics?

Illustration is one of the most basic forms of communication known. Before we speak, we see and understand symbols through their abstract visual forms. When combining pictures with words we increase our ability to communicate ideas, emotions, and concepts. Studies have shown an increase in literacy and expression when students work with comic book illustration.

### Essential Questions

- ★ *How do current events impact our everyday life?*
- ★ *How can art have an impact on how people understand current events?*

### Budget\*

★ **\$502.27\***

\*To see a breakdown of costs regarding the construction of the project go to page 39.





## Materials & Budget

Material	Description	Links	Qty.	Cost
<b>2H Pencils, classroom set</b>	We highly recommend you use adequate drawing pencils for this project.	<a href="http://goo.gl/KnRKdl">http://goo.gl/KnRKdl</a>	<b>1<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>\$14.30</b>
<b>Micron Size 4 Pen</b>	These pens are to be used only for lettering. Limit one per every two students, or even more than that. <i>*This item is optional, Zebra pens (Below) can also be used for lettering - if they are, make sure that the lettering is inked first when inking the page.</i>	<a href="http://goo.gl/Jnsn2v">http://goo.gl/Jnsn2v</a>	<b>25<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b>Ruler</b>	A clear, plastic ruler, is recommended for this project so that students can see through the ruler while making lines for their work. Use one ruler per every 2 students.	<a href="http://goo.gl/vx1ur">http://goo.gl/vx1ur</a>	<b>25<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>\$49.75</b>
<b>Light Box</b>	For the model comic, we used a homemade light box. The light box is optional because you can also use windows with natural lighting behind them in lieu of not having access to a lightbox.	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyRcV0F615s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyRcV0F615s</a>	-	-
<b>Jetpens Zebra Inking Pens</b>	The model comic, as well as the tutorial series, was entirely constructed using these pens.	<a href="http://goo.gl/ymvfd">http://goo.gl/ymvfd</a>	<b>50<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>\$125.00</b>
<b>Adobe Photoshop</b>	Only the teacher needs this. The project works with Creative Suite 6, but any version of Adobe Photoshop will work for this tutorial. You can download a copy of CS2 for free.	<a href="http://goo.gl/ZGHgML">http://goo.gl/ZGHgML</a>	<b>1</b>	<b>_.8</b>
<b>A Photo Scanner</b>	Make sure to use a scanner that can scan in full color. 8.5x11 flatbeds are acceptable.	<a href="http://goo.gl/CmjoywW">http://goo.gl/CmjoywW</a>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$67.99</b>
<b>Copier</b>	Specifically you will need a document printer/copier that can print on both sides of an 8.5x11 piece of standard printer paper.	-	<b>1</b>	<b>_.9</b>

<sup>4</sup> This quantity is based on student participation number. Order extras.

<sup>5</sup> Based on student population numbers.

<sup>6</sup> Based on student population numbers.

<sup>7</sup> This quantity relates directly to the amount of students completing the project. One per student and we recommend buying at least 5 extra just in case they get stolen or broken.

<sup>8</sup> Talk to the technical support within your school setting before purchasing, they may have school copies of this for you to use.

<sup>9</sup> Your school should supply this. If they do not it is possible to talk to a local printer to complete this, or you can use a service like [lulu.com](http://lulu.com), [blurb.com](http://blurb.com), or a comic-specific on-demand printer like [ka-blam.com](http://ka-blam.com).

<b>Adjustable Stapler</b>	This will be a key piece of equipment to have so that you can bind your comics properly.	<a href="http://goo.gl/RZKWsc">http://goo.gl/RZKWsc</a>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$52.20</b>
<b>Staples</b>	These are for the binding of the comics. If you want to have fun, look into buying colored staples.	<a href="http://goo.gl/UB7WgG">http://goo.gl/UB7WgG</a>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Bone Folder</b>	A bone folder will allow you to quickly, and easily, fold your finished comics without ruining your fingers.	<a href="http://goo.gl/kGQH7O">http://goo.gl/kGQH7O</a>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$17.25</b>
<b>Case of Copy Paper</b>	5000 sheets of paper should easily be enough to cover all of the prints you need to make, including worksheets, for the entire project.	<a href="http://goo.gl/G5llxn">http://goo.gl/G5llxn</a>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Card Stock</b>	This can be used to make the covers of the comics. The interior pages being made from copy paper, having a thick cover can add a much needed "book" feel to the weight of the final comic print.	<a href="http://goo.gl/QWkkg7">http://goo.gl/QWkkg7</a>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$10.78</b>

**Total Cost of Project: 502.27<sup>10</sup>**

<sup>10</sup> Price of project does not include shipping or tax costs. Price calculation is subject to change with market increases.