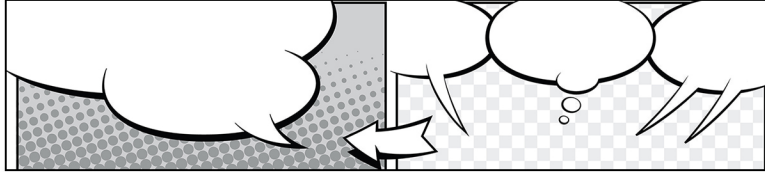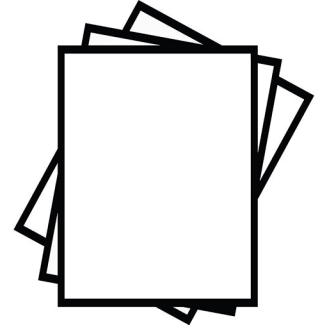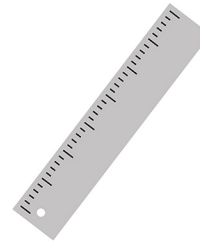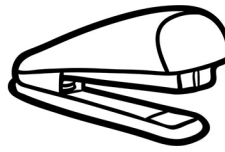# Create a comic book

Learn about story structure and writing dialogue by creating your own comic book.

What you'll need

* A few pages of 8.5" x 11" paper and a pencil
* Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
* Ruler
* Stapler and staples

How to do it

* Outline your story. Think about what will be told in the narrator's voice, the dialogue between characters, and the drawings.
* Write your story, then break it into parts. How many different scenes will you have? Count how many boxes you will need to convey your story. For this example, plan on 24 boxes.
* Fold two pieces of paper in half horizontally. With one page inside the other, staple the pages together down the fold line. Leave the front and back pages blank. On all the other pages, draw a large rectangle that's 5" x 7". Measure to draw lines down the middle vertically and horizontally, creating 4 rectangular boxes on each page. Do this on each page until you have 24 boxes.
* Tell your story through narration, character dialogue, and pictures. For narration, write in small print at the top of the box and draw a vertical line under it to separate it from the image. For dialogue, draw speech bubbles coming from the characters' mouths. Narration and conversations should relate to the pictures. Be sure to color in (or shade) your pictures.
* Create your front and back cover designs. Include the author and illustrator's name. (That's you!)

Question to answer

What's the hardest part of creating your own comic book? Why?

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