

3 Name: ..... Class: ..... Date: .....

# Graphic Novels


Write in sentences.

**AUTHOR / EDITOR**

**TITLE**

**PUBLISHER**

Choose a Graphic Novel or Manga book.  
Read the book BEFORE you fill in the task sheet.

You usually find this information on the back of the title page. 

Graphic Novel is another term for a comic. *Comic* is a genre in its own right, but should not be mistaken with comic novels which are humorous (or funny) prose.



1. What made you select this particular graphic novel? Explain why.

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2. Rate the following aspects. Think carefully as you will need to justify your answers.

	1. Very poor	2. Poor	3. Average	4. Good	5. Very Good
Story					
Artwork					
Characters					
Dialogue					
Layout					

Based on *The Stan Lee Excelsior Award for Graphic Novels & Manga* ratings form.

3. Now select THREE of the above aspects and give at least TWO reasons why you gave it the rating you did. Illustrate this with examples.

A. ....

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B. ....

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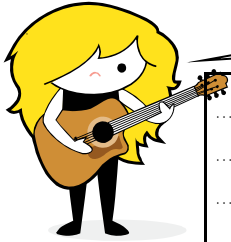
C. ....

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Choose your favourite or the most exciting sequence of the text and answer the following questions.



4. Describe the action taking place.

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5. What is the atmosphere like?



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6. How does the layout / design of the sequence convey the atmosphere / mood of the sequence? Choose at least two of the following aspects.

Think about colour, panels (a single image on the page), framing (angle of shot, long shots, close ups), gutters (the gap between the panels), borders (of the panels), drawing style, transitions between panels, speech balloons (type face, positioning, emphasis)

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**Graphic Novel:** "a fictional story that is presented in comic-strip format and published as a book"<sup>1</sup>.

**Manga:** "a Japanese graphic novel characterized by highly stylized art."<sup>2</sup>

**Features of Graphic Novels**

May include some, but not necessarily all of the following elements.

- ⇒ Narrative
- ⇒ Captions
- ⇒ Speech balloons
- ⇒ Illustrations & Images
- ⇒ Bound book rather than staples
- ⇒ Colour or b & w images
- ⇒ Heroes & Villains
- ⇒ Panels; gutters; borders

**Suggested Reading**

Dan Di Dio (Editor) *Batman Begins*

Anthony Horowitz *Stormbreaker: The Graphic Novel*

Victor Hugo *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* Retold by L. L. Owens

Geoff Johns et al *Green Lantern: Secret Origin*

Masashi Kishimoto *Naruto* (Manga)

Natsumi Mukai *Anima* (Manga)

Saraswati Nagpal *Sita: Daughter of the Earth*

R. L. Stevenson *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* Retold by Carl Bowen

J. R. R. Tolkien *The Hobbit* Adapted by Charles Dixon

John Wagner & Carlos Ezquerra *Strontium Dog: The Life and Death of Johnny Alpha*

Sean Michel Wilson *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*

1. Merriam-Webster. Available at <www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary> [Accessed 21/8/14]  
 2. The Free Dictionary. Available at <www.thefreedictionary.com/Manga> [Accessed 21/8/14]