THE PHOENIX COMIC CLUB

HOW TO DRAW SPEECH BUBBLES



WHAT ARE SPEECH BUBBLES?



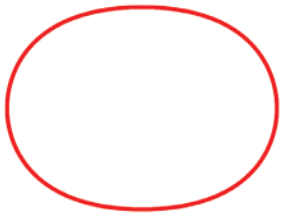
SPEECH BUBBLES ARE USUALLY OVAL SHAPES WITH A POINTY ***TAIL*** PROTRUDING FROM THEM THAT SERVE TO CONTAIN A CHARACTER'S ***DIALOGUE*** IN A COMIC.

AT THEIR CORE THEY'RE PRETTY SIMPLE, BUT THEY STILL COME WITH THEIR OWN SET OF ***RULES*** AND ***HIDDEN COMPLEXITIES*** THAT IT'S WORTH LEARNING TO MAKE YOUR COMICS LOOK THE ABSOLUTE BEST THEY CAN.

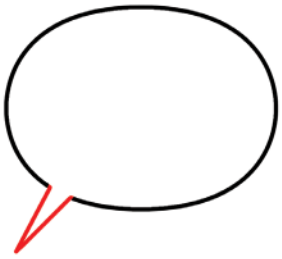
THERE ARE ALSO LOTS OF ***DIFFERENT STYLES*** OF SPEECH BUBBLES AVAILABLE TO YOU, SOME OF WHICH WE ARE GOING TO EXPLORE IN THIS TUTORIAL.

LET'S START BY LEARNING HOW TO DRAW A ***STANDARD SPEECH BUBBLE.***

HOW TO DRAW A STANDARD SPEECH BUBBLE



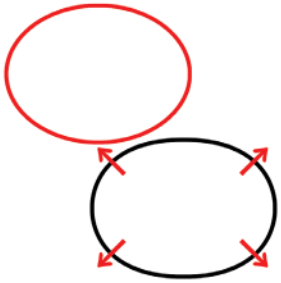
1. START BY DRAWING AN ***OVAL***



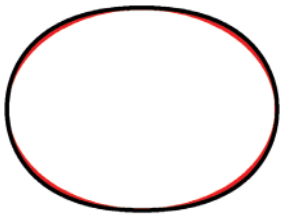
2. ADD A POINTY TRIANGLE TO IT, THIS IS CALLED A ***TAIL***



3. BUT A ***CURVED TAIL*** IS EVEN BETTER, AS IT'S A LITTLE MORE VERSATILE



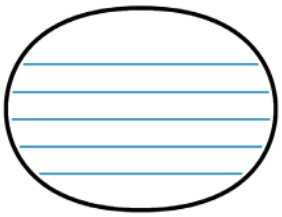
4. TRADITIONALLY SPEECH BUBBLES ***AREN'T A PERFECT OVAL***



5. THEY HAVE ***SQUARED OFF CORNERS*** WHICH MAKE THEM MORE ***BULBOUS***



6. SPEECH BUBBLES COME IN A VARIETY OF ***SHAPES AND SIZES***



7. BEFORE ADDING TEXT, DRAW ***LIGHT PENCIL LINES*** AS GUIDES



8. THIS IS THE ***BEST WAY*** TO ADD TEXT TO YOUR SPEECH BUBBLE



9. THE TOP AND BOTTOM LINES SHOULD BE ***SHORTER*** THAN THE MIDDLE ONES



10. AS THEY LOOK ***OFF BALANCE*** AND CREATE WEIRD EMPTY WHITE SPACES



11. OTHERWISE YOUR TEXT WILL LOOK ***CRAMPED*** AND A LITTLE UNTIDY



12. YOU RARELY HAVE ROOM FOR SUCH ***GENEROUS MARGINS*** IN A PANEL

OTHER TYPES OF BUBBLES

CAPTION BOX

A SIMPLE YELLOW ***TEXT BOX,*** USUALLY PLACED IN THE TOP LEFT OF A PANEL. IT'S A GREAT TOOL FOR ***MOVING TIME FORWARD,*** SHIFTING FROM ONE ***LOCATION*** TO ANOTHER, OR PERHAPS EVEN ***BOTH.***



THOUGHT BUBBLE

A CLASSIC COMIC BOOK BUBBLE. A SERIES OF CLOUD-LIKE, GENTLE, CONNECTED CURVES FOR REVEALING THE ***INNER THOUGHTS*** OF YOUR CHARACTER. USE THREE CIRCLES THAT GRADUALLY REDUCE IN SIZE RATHER THAN A TRADITIONAL TAIL.



SHOUT BUBBLE

THE RANDOMLY PLACED, BIG OPEN CURVES OF THIS BUBBLE ARE PERFECT FOR PORTRAYING A SENSE OF ***URGENCY AND PANIC.*** THEY ARE BEST USED WHEN YOU HAVE A CHARACTER SHOUTING OR SCREAMING. PAIR WITH A SINGLE, LARGE, WORD FOR ULTIMATE EFFECT.



RADIO BUBBLE

AT FIRST GLANCE, THIS LOOKS VERY SIMILAR TO THE SHOUT BUBBLE, BUT THE CURVES ARE SMALLER AND MORE PACKED TOGETHER. THIS SYMBOLISES THE ***STATIC*** YOU MIGHT HEAR OVER A RADIO AS OPPOSED TO PANIC. PAIR WITH A CURVED ZIG-ZAG TAIL.



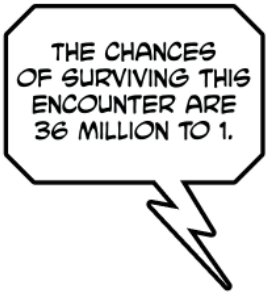
WHISPER BUBBLE

EXACTLY THE SAME IN BASIC SHAPE AS YOUR STANDARD SPEECH BUBBLE BUT WITH ***DOTTED / DASHED LINES*** AROUND THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUBBLE TO SHOW THAT A CHARACTER IS ***SPEAKING SOFTLY,*** SO THAT OTHERS MIGHT NOT HEAR THEM.



ROBOT BUBBLE

THE HARD LINES AND ANGLED CORNERS OF THIS BUBBLE ARE PERFECT FOR AN ***ANDROID OR ROBOT CHARACTER.*** PAIR IT WITH A STRAIGHT ZIG-ZAG TAIL.

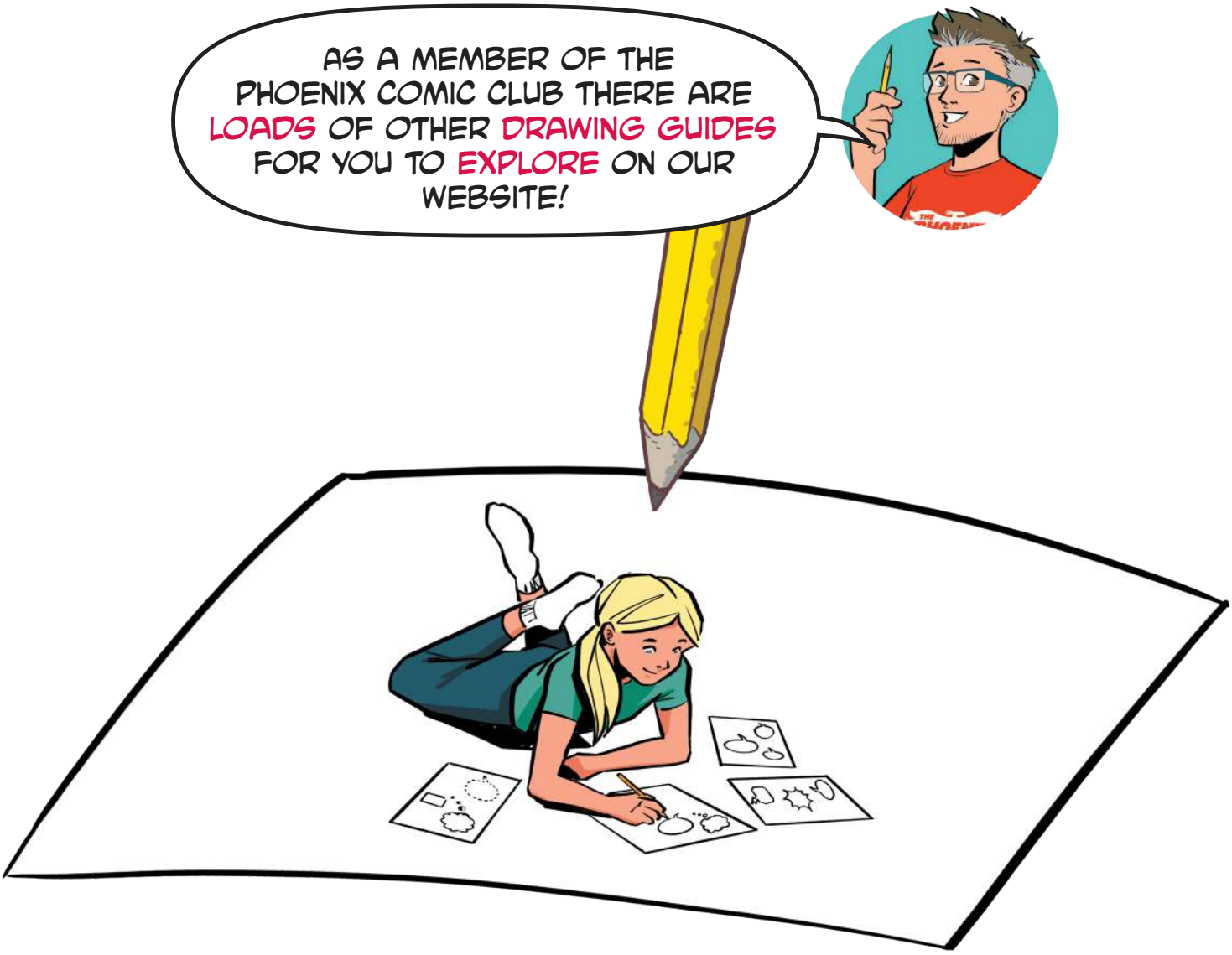


COMIC CLUB CHALLENGE – OVER TO YOU, PHOENIXERS!

GREAT JOB, ***PHOENIXERS!*** NOW IT'S ***YOUR*** TURN. IN THE NEXT TUTORIAL, I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW TO ***PLACE YOUR SPEECH BUBBLES*** WITHIN A COMIC PAGE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WHY NOT ***PRACTISE*** CREATING YOUR OWN SPEECH BUBBLES? USE THE HEXAGON METHOD FOR ARRANGING YOUR TEXT, PLAY AROUND WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF SPEECH BUBBLES AND MAYBE EVEN HAVE A GO AT CREATING YOUR ***OWN TYPE*** OF SPEECH BUBBLE.





AMAZING DRAW-ALONG VIDEOS WITH LOADS OF YOUR FAVOURITE CREATORS!

AWESOME VIDEOS AND INCREDIBLE PRINTABLE GUIDES!

TIPS AND DRAWING SECRETS FROM TOP COMIC CREATORS!

SCAN HERE TO GET STARTED!

THEPHOENIXCOMIC.CO.UK/COMIC-CLUB