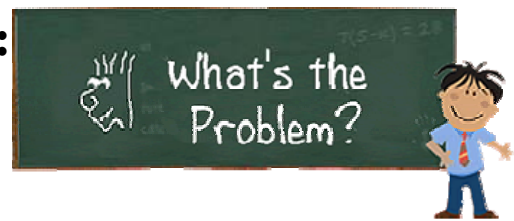


Teacher Instructions:



Problem Scenario: “A Comic Book Superstar”

The Main Problem: *You are the head of the Creative Department of a major comic book publisher (such as Marvel or DC). It is your job to design the next comic book superhero—or super villain—who will capture the attention of large audiences (and hopefully spark movies, toys, and other merchandise). What should be the look, personality, and backstory of this new character?*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



How do you create a comic book superstar?

Students will review the elements of designing comic book heroes, and use these techniques in their own creations.

Step ①

**Review
Stimulus
Items**

Stimulus Item #1 — “Creating a Comic Character” (step-by-step)

Stimulus Item #2— “Qualities of Great Heroes” (article)

Stimulus Item #3— “Who’s Who by the Colors” (infographic)

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic.
You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Extended Responses: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

- 1. You are chosen to create a new comic book superhero (or villain). What are the most important factors that influence your design? Provide details to support your design process.**
- 2. You are chosen to create a new comic book superhero (or villain). What are the most defining features of his/her/its look, personality, and backstory?**

Step ③

**Student
Response**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional): Divide students into small groups, and each group is responsible for **preparing a “pitch”** to give to the head of a comic book publishing company (such as Marvel or DC) to convince him or her to launch a new comic book hero (or villain). The pitch should describe the character (look, personality, backstory), and explain why audiences will be drawn to that character. Each group should create a **quick sketch, or perhaps a comic book cover concept**, that reveals the character.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.