Graphic Novel Rubric

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| **Category** | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | **Strategies** |
| **Story**  (Inquiry) | The story is clear, well organized and easy to read. Important narrative aspects such as the climax and resolution are very clear. The reader finishes the story feeling it is complete and no major details are missing. | The story is clear and well organized, but there are one or two points of confusion. Important narrative aspects such as the climax and resolution are clear. The reader finishes the story feeling it is complete and no major details are missing. | The story is sometimes clear, but disorganized. Important narrative aspects such as the climax and resolution are not completely clear. The reader finishes the story feeling it is complete but that major details are missing. | The story is confused and unclear. Important narrative aspects such as the climax and resolution are missing. The graphic novel is very hard to read because it is so disjointed. The reader finishes the story feeling it is incomplete. | -List the main points of the story. Do they connect clearly to each other? Do you find yourself having to fill in blanks often? If so, your story may not be self-contained and readers may be confused. |
| **Word Choice**  (K&S) | Strong, descriptive language is used and all captions are concise. | Most language is clear and concise and for the most part strong and descriptive. | The language is strong at times, but often the language is weak. | The language is overly simple and not at all descriptive. | -Circle boring adjectives and replace them with more creative ones.  -Use powerful adverb/verb combinations (e.g. the garbage was thrown (*verb*) carelessly (*adverb*) onto the floor). |
| **Theme**  (Inquiry) | The reader could easily state the theme of your story because it is explicit in both the visuals and text. | The reader could state the theme of your story. It is clear in the text but | The reader can make an educated guess at the theme of the story but it is not clear in the visuals and/or the text. | The reader is not able to state the theme of the story because it is not clear in visuals or text. | Re-visit your theme statement and find instances throughout your graphic novel that demonstrate the theme. |
| **Visual-Layout** | Frames are designed in a way that greatly enhances the overall visual effect. The design and layout clearly enhances the artwork and text. | Frames are designed in a way that for the most part enhance the overall visual effect. The design and layout enhances the artwork and text, but there are one or two instances where the layout detracts from the story. | Frames are designed in a way that add to the overall visual effect for about ½ of the graphic novel. The design and layout often enhances the artwork and text, but there are multiple instances where the layout detracts from the story. | Frames lack design and do not enhance the overall visual effect. The design and layout do not enhance the artwork and text. | -Have you thought carefully about the layout of each page? Can you clearly answer why you did what you did with the frames on each page? |
| **Visual-Images**  (Inquiry) | All Images are striking and powerful. All images enhance the story and work with the text to tell the story. All images are high quality, clear, and are not pixelated. All of the images are original and of your own creation or re-mixing | Most images are striking and powerful and add to the meaning of the text. Most images are high quality, clear, and are not pixelated. Most of the images are original and of your own creation or re-mixing. | There are some striking and powerful images but some are boring. Some images enhance the story, but some images detract from the story because they are confusing, of low quality, unclear and/or pixelated. Some of the images are original and of your own creation or re-mixing, but there are many instances where the images seem to be completely lifted or are reminiscent of something else. | Very few images are striking or powerful, and many seem boring and unrelated. Images rarely enhance the story, and most images detract from the story because they are confusing, of low quality, unclear and/or pixelated. Most of the images seem to be lifted or are reminiscent of something else. | -Do your images enhance the story you are trying to tell or are they just basic reiterations of your text?  -Can your images stand alone without the text and tell a basic version of the story?  -Look carefully at each image and ensure it is clear and related. |
| **Attention to Detail (Conventions & Production Quality)**  (K & S) | There are no distracting errors, corrections or erasures and is the novel is easily read. There are no errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation. | There are only one or two distracting errors, corrections or erasures and your novel is easily read. There are 1-3 errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation. | Fairly readable but the quality is not very good on some parts. It looks like the student ran out of time. There are 3-5 errors in grammar, spelling or punctuation. | Very messy and hard to read. It looks like the student threw it together at the last minute without much care. There are 6 or more errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation. | -Take the time to read over your work in **hard copy**.  -Read out loud and out of sequence (from the beginning to the end, etc.) to catch awkward phrases and grammar issues.  -Have you asked others to read over your work? |