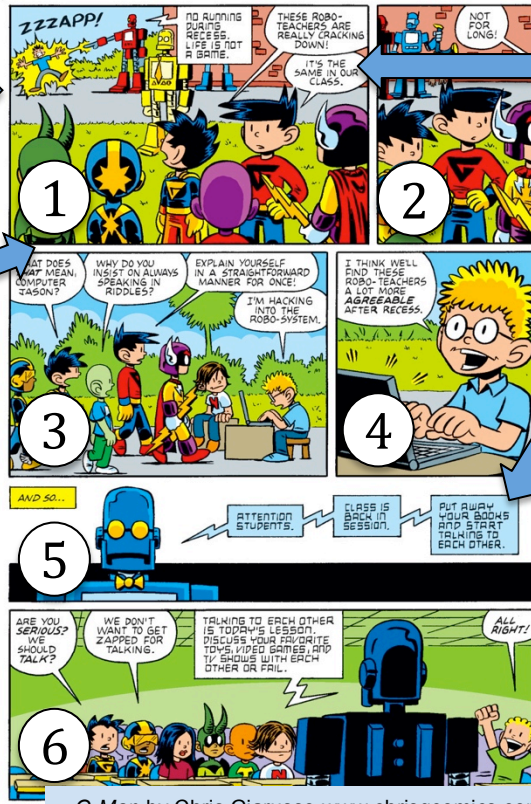


How to Read Comics

by Tracy Edmunds, M.A. Ed.
Featuring *G-Man* by Chris Giarusso
and *The Dreamland Chronicles* by Scott Sava

Panels are frames that each contain one segment of the action. Panels can be any shape or size. Read the panels from left to right, top to bottom.

Gutters are the spaces between panels. This is where the reader must imagine the action from panel to panel.



Word balloons contain character dialogue. The tail of the bubble points to the speaker. Sometimes different colors, shapes, or fonts are used to show the personality of a character.

A cloud-like thought bubble means a character is thinking, not speaking.

Captions usually contain narration but sometimes dialogue or other text information.

Slow down!
Read both the text and the pictures.
Think about what is happening between the panels.

G-Man by Chris Giarusso www.chrisgcomics.com



Splash panels are large images that take up most or all of a page. They are often used to establish location or mood.

Bleed is when an image goes all the way to the edge of a page.

Sound effects are usually drawn to visually represent the volume and feeling of the sound.

What action takes place between these two panels?



The Dreamland Chronicles by Scott Sava
www.thedreamlandchronicles.com