

The challenge

Top tips

Author Tom Palmer has put together a few tips to help you with creating your comic strips. Read the tips and take part in the challenge!

Tips for Comic strip 1

When you are writing a story you don't always have to tell the reader that your characters are sad or happy: you can show them. If you look at pictures in comic books, you can see how the people feel from their faces and their body posture. You can also do the same in fiction.

For example...

- Are their eyes narrowed as if angry, or wide open to show they are happy?
- Have they got their arms folded like they are shy, hands on their hips, being aggressive; or, are their arms wide open to show they are relaxed?
- Their mouth. Is it open in shock, tight-lipped like they have a secret, or smiling to indicate they are happy?
- If you study people at home and when you are outside you can play at guessing how someone is feeling. It's a great way to practise your writing skills. But don't stare for too long, they might not like it!

Tips for Comic strip 2

If you've ever watched a game of football you'll have heard a commentator telling you what's happening. Weird, when you can see for yourself! But actually, it helps to tell the story and clarify what is happening.

If you are using **comic strip template 2** think about:

- Using active words like passes, heads, volleys the ball. Or tackles.
- Use the names of the characters. You can invent your own. Or make it a game involving your friends.
- Try and make one character your main focus, so the reader can identify with one player.
- Add a dot-dot-dot (like this...) to the passage to create suspense between pieces of commentary.

