

DRAW OUT THE STORY

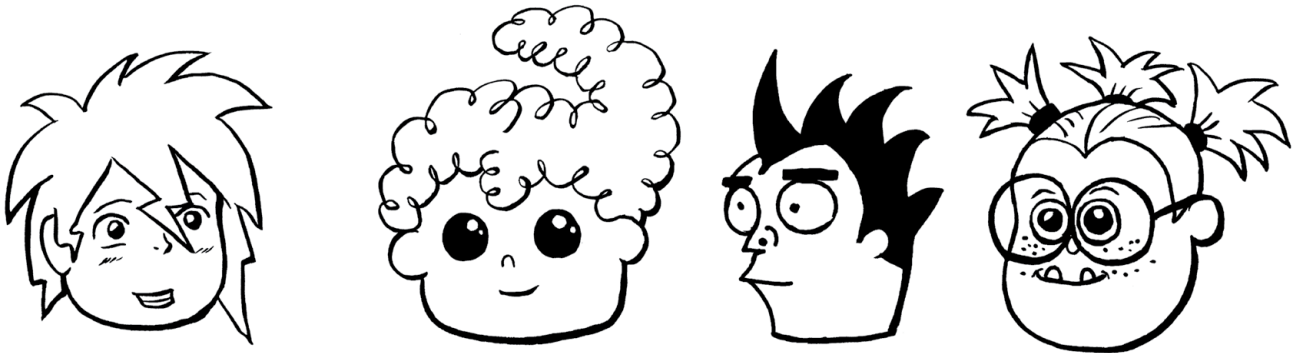
10 SECRETS TO CREATING YOUR OWN COMICS



MORE TIPS FROM **BRIAN McLACHLAN**

DECODING MANGA AND ANIME

Japanese comics are called manga, and Japanese animated films are called anime. The godfather of anime/manga is Osamu Tezuka, the creator of manga series Astro Boy. Tezuka drew all of his characters with huge eyes and tiny mouths. He added crazy hairstyles to help tell his characters apart. While many manga artists have a similar style, you don't have to draw like them to use the same techniques to make things dramatic and exciting.



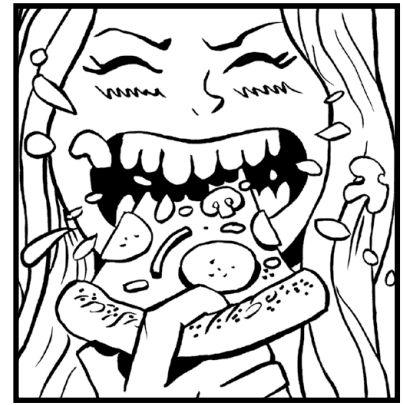
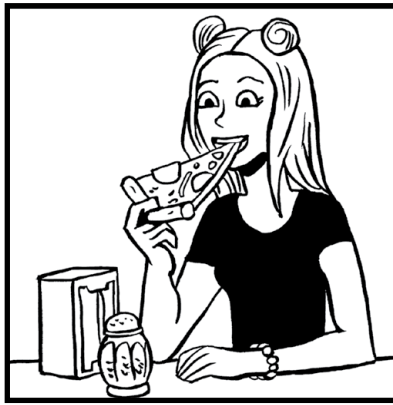
While most cartoonists exaggerate body shapes, manga artists also exaggerate how the body moves. In North America, this kind of exaggeration is usually only seen in silly comics, but there's no reason you can't use it in stories of heroic action, daily drama, spine-tingling terror, etc. like in the example below.



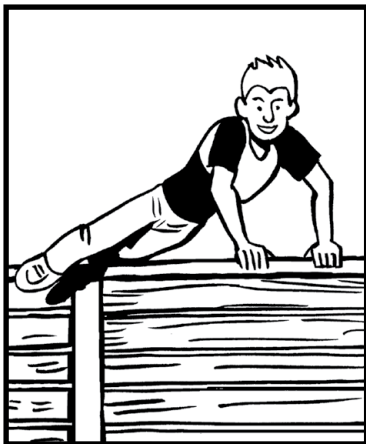
VS.



Manga artists also tend to exaggerate the perspective—or viewpoint—of their drawings. Compare the picture of a lunch the left with the more manga-styled approach on the right. Which one makes you feel like you're eating the pizza yourself?



Here are two more typical cartoon panels. Can you draw them in a more exaggerated way? Think about what parts you can exaggerate to really feel a drink being poured or the fence being hopped.



Want more tips on how to draw dynamic characters? Check out:



for secrets like this one and more!

