

How to Read a Comic

Caption boxes fill in time and place.

Across Town

When a balloon does not lead to a person, that means he or she is outside the frame.

The story is divided into frames that proceed from top to bottom and left to right: How many frames are on this page?

In a comic book, talk balloons replace quote marks.

When talk balloons are divided into two or three sections, that tells the reader to pause between balloons.

A "burst" is a jagged talk balloon. It means that the speaker is mad or stressed out.

Comics create drama by changing the perspective. What effect is created by looking up at the fire escape from below?

