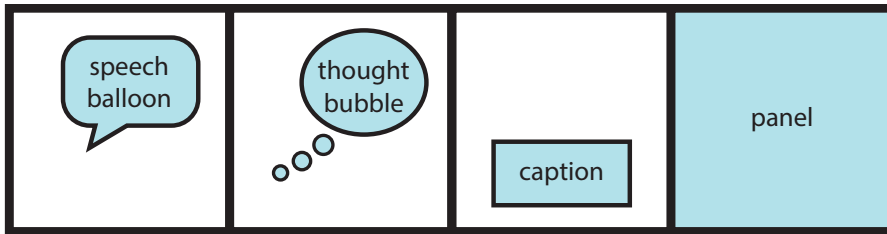


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## How to Read a Comic

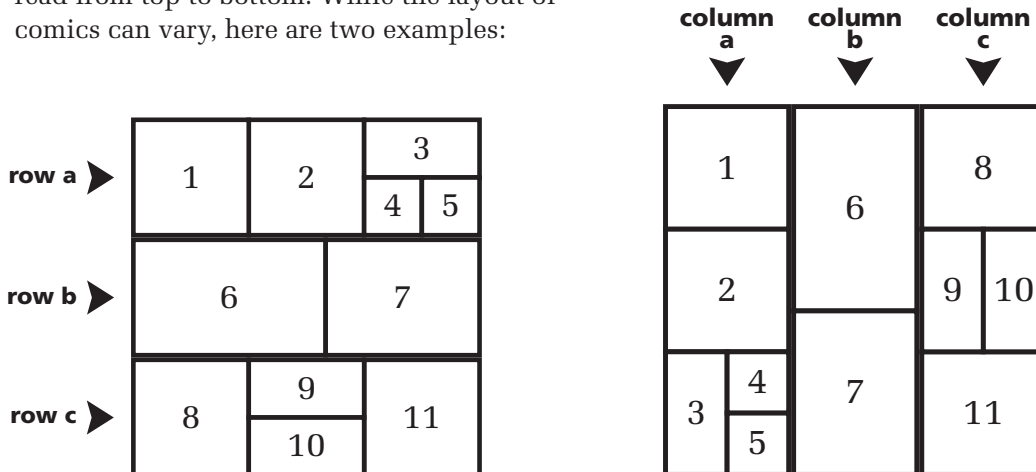
### Part I: Components of a Comic

- **thought bubble or balloon**—text that shows what someone is thinking
- **speech bubble or balloon**—text that shows what someone is saying
- **caption**—text of the narrator
- **panel**—individual sections or pictures, which often have a border around them
- **row**—a horizontal sequence of panels
- **column**—a vertical sequence of panels



### Part II: Navigating through the Panels

**Tip:** Look for continuous lines that cut across or up and down the entire page. These often mark the break between rows or columns, and can help you find your way through a comic. Comics organized in **rows** should be read across the page. Comics organized into **columns** are read from top to bottom. While the layout of comics can vary, here are two examples:



### Part III: Key Questions

As you read a comic, keep track of what is happening by thinking about the following questions:

- Where is the story taking place?
- Who is portrayed in the comic?
- What is happening? Identify major events.
- What are people saying or thinking?
- What are people's expressions?
- How much time passes? Does the story unfold chronologically, or jump back and forward in time?