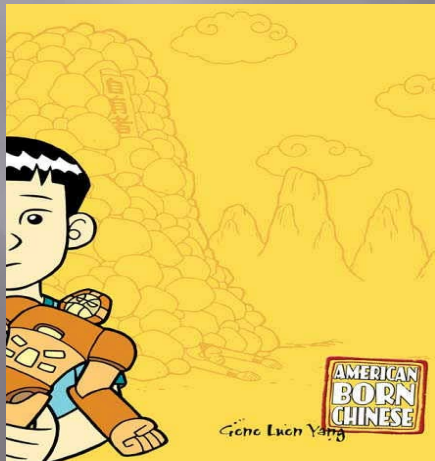




AMERICAN BORN CHINESE PART I

AGWR CH.2 RHETORICAL READING METHODOLOGY

Gene Luen Yang

Disney Adaptation



Look at this page from ABC where Jin is riding in a car with his parents as his mother tells him an old Chinese Parable. Which terms (from Comics Terminology) best describes the comic book conventions used on this page?



The Graphic Novel: The Frame

“The fundamental function of comic (strip and book) art to communicate ideas/and or stories by means of words and pictures involves the movements of certain images (such as people and things) through space” (Eisner 38).

Sequenced segments: Panels or Frames



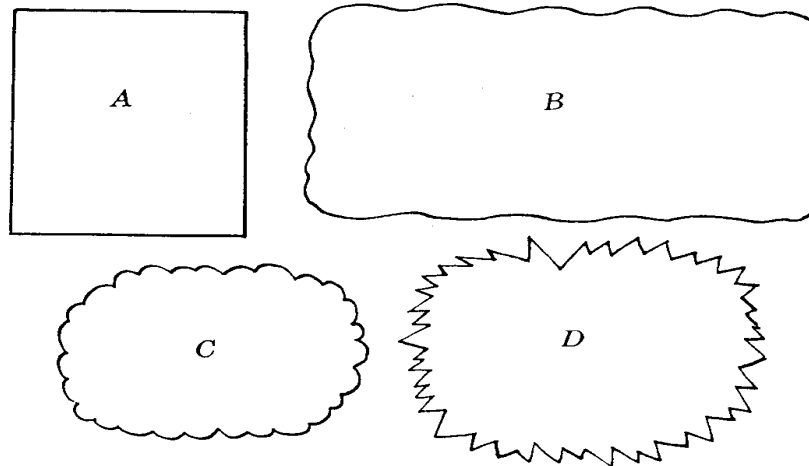
Time and Panels: Eisner

more. This type of 'panelization' is more commonly seen in comic strips than in comic books because it is a natural extension of the format requirements of the newspapers in which they appear.

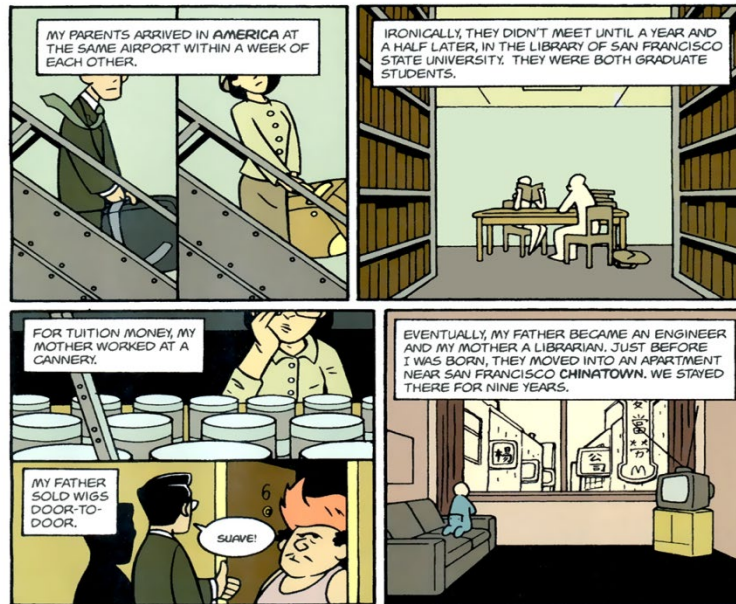
THE 'LANGUAGE' OF THE PANEL BORDER

In addition to its primary function as a frame in which to place objects and actions, the panel border itself can be used as part of the non-verbal 'language' of sequential art.

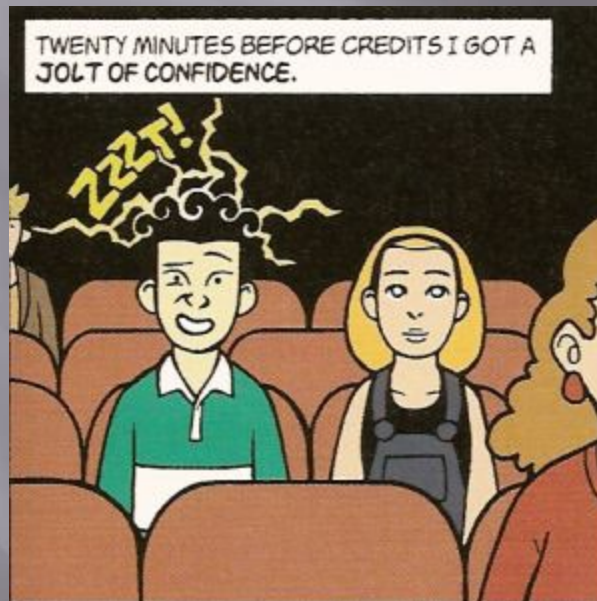
For example, rectangular panels with straight edged borders (A), unless the verbal portion of the narrative contradicts this, usually are meant to imply that the actions contained therein are set in the present tense. The flashback (a change in tense or shift in time) is often indicated by altering the line which makes up the frame. The wavy edged (B) or scalloped (C) panel border is the most common past time indicator. While there is no universally agreed upon convention for expressing tense through the outline of the frame, the 'character' of the line—as in the case of sound, emotion (D) or thought (C)—creates a hieroglyphic.



Time and Panels



TvTropes classifies Jin's sudden hair perm as an Expository Hairstyle Change trope. What does the rhetor (Yang) convey to his audience about Jin when he gives him this Expository Hairstyle Change? (See image below for Jin's hair perm.)



Look at the page below from ABC. Write a sentence making a claim about how the dominant culture views Jin. Explain how one or more of the frames below supports your claim.

