

WHAT'S A CHILDREN'S COMIC?

IT'S SURPRISINGLY HARD TO DEFINE WHAT A COMIC IS, BUT HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS TO HELP

THREE AGE RANGES

Pre-school	<i>Bob the Builder</i>
Juvenile	<i>The Beano</i>
Adolescent	<i>2000AD</i>

MANY DIFFERENT FORMATS

- A regular weekly publication with cartoon characters, often based on naughty children and stereotypes.
- Superhero stories full of action and fantasy.
- A comic strip with a serialised story.
- Comics with extended stories that may be compiled to become graphic novels.
- Pictorial strips that cover serious issues like drugs and pollution.
- 'Underground', alternative, cult or fan-based comics with limited circulation.
- Hybrid publications with photo-stories which provide a crossover to teenage magazines.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING FOR THIS SUMMER'S EXAM, WE WILL DEFINE COMICS AS:

"A REGULAR PUBLICATION CONTAINING COMIC STRIP PANELS WITH SHORT GRAPHIC NARRATIVES, AIMED AT A BRITISH AUDIENCE AGED 7-11."

HOMEWORK

With the help of friends, neighbours and family (if necessary), collect as many *different genres* of unwanted children's comics as you can – AT LEAST FIVE COMICS. Some of them need to be older than the year 2000.