

Graphic Novel Vocabulary

Here are a few terms to help you talk about the words and images you see in graphic novels. Label each image with the appropriate term.

1. **Speech Balloon/External Dialogue** - where the author puts the words the characters speak to one another.
2. **Thought Balloon/Internal Dialogue** - where the author puts the words the characters think to themselves.
3. **Captions** - boxes containing various text elements, including the scene-setting, description, and more.
4. **Emanata** - the tear drops, sweat drops, motion lines or question marks the artist draws around a character's face to show emotion or movement.
5. **Panel** - a distinct section of a comic or graphic novel containing images and text.
6. **Frame** - the lines and borders that contain the panel.
7. **Gutter** - the space between the panels.
8. **Special effects lettering** - a method of drawing attention to text that reinforces the impact of words like POW! or WOW!

