

INTRODUCING COMIC VOCABULARY

HI, I'M SLEDGE,
HERE TO TELL YOU ABOUT
COMICS.

I'M STANDING INSIDE
THE BASIC UNIT OF A COMIC.
A PANEL IS A FRAME OF ANY
SHAPE. THE RECTANGULAR BOX AT
THE TOP OF THE PANEL IS THE
CAPTION FOR THE
NARRATION.

THIS IS AN ESTABLISHING SHOT THAT GIVES YOU
THE BIG PICTURE OF THE SETTING. YOU CAN SEE
MORE OF THE LANDSCAPE AND BACKGROUND IN
AN ESTABLISHING SHOT.

THE SHAPE MY
WORDS ARE IN IS
CALLED A SPEECH
BALLOON.

YIKES, I WONDER IF
THAT SNAKE IS
POISONOUS.

THOUGHT BALLOONS LIKE
THE ONES IN THIS PANEL ARE A
COOL WAY TO SHOW A CONFLICT TO THE
READER EVEN BEFORE THE CHARACTER
KNOWS. THIS IS CALLED DRAMATIC IRONY.
LIKE--MAYBE THAT SNAKE IS HOPING
I'LL BE ITS FRIEND BUT I'M
SCARED.

SHE LOOKS
TASTY....

SSSSSS...

MEANWHILE THE
SHOVEL HAS
SOMETHING TO
SAY...

**TELL THEM
HOW THE PERSON ON
THE RIGHT CAN SPEAK
FIRST!**

THAT'S RIGHT.
USUALLY WE READ
BALLOONS FROM LEFT
TO RIGHT, BUT IF YOU PUT A
BALLOON ABOVE THE
OTHERS, EVEN A LOWLY
SHOVEL MAY SPEAK
FIRST.

BE QUIET
SHOVEL.

ONE LAST
TIP...WRITE THE
WORDS BEFORE YOU
DRAW THE SHAPE SO
THAT YOU HAVE
ENOUGH ROOM.

THIS IS A CLOSE UP SHOT.