

AGENTS OF CHANGE

ANTHOLOGY 2

AMERICAN ENGLISH GLOBAL COMICS VIRTUAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

2ND COHORT

American English Global Comics Virtual eXchange Program
U.S. Department of State ★ Office of English Language Programs



AE COMICS VIRTUAL EXCHANGE

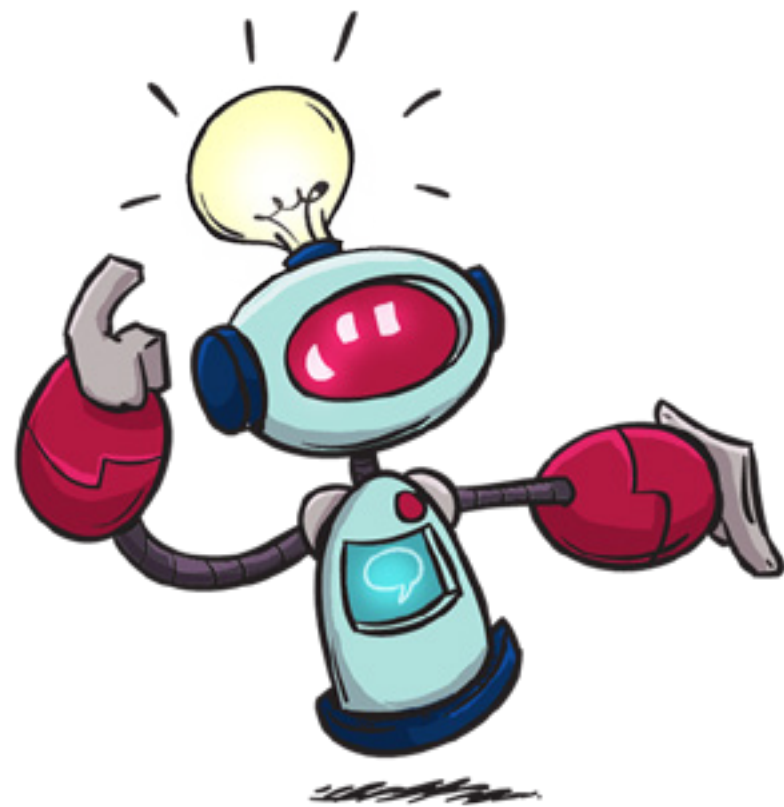
Amid the coronavirus pandemic, more education and exchange leaders are seeking ways to use technology to reach international teachers whose lives have been disrupted by closed schools, cancelled trips, and prolonged isolation. The Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), saw the need to pivot face-to-face exchanges, run through the English Access Microscholarship Program, to a virtual exchange learning experience connecting English as a Foreign Language (EFL) professionals to a new pedagogy that could be applied to future classroom teaching.

The 2020 Fall *American English Global Comics Virtual Exchange* was the second of two pilots for a 10-week virtual exchange between English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teachers nominated by Regional Language Officers (RELOs) at various US embassies and consulates across the globe. The objective of this exchange was to use storytelling through comics to highlight a community challenge within participants' social and cultural context while offering new pedagogy for language learning. The purpose of the exchange involved teaching content knowledge of graphic novels and the linguistic skills of storytelling in English. The program used the Global Competence Matrix framework which involves four categories of global education which include: 1-Investigating the World, 2-Recognizing Perspectives, 3-Communicating Ideas, and 4-Taking Action. This framework provides participants with the tools to examine their colleagues' and their own perspectives on issues of relevance to their own communities. The use of Project Based Learning (PBL) methodology guided participants through collaborative teamwork with a final project involving critical thinking, problem solving, cross cultural communication, collaboration, and innovation of this anthology of comic stories that represent the global community of the participants of this virtual exchange.

This collective project was a work of love. We hope you enjoy reading their stories and getting to know these superhero teachers. The final project required participants from two countries to each create a unique superhero persona and use this superhero to assist with a challenge in their partner's country. They did this by communicating on a variety of digital tools, including the Canvas LMS, What'sApp, and Padlet.

It has been my sincere pleasure to work with these courageous, talented, and enthusiastic teachers over the past 10 weeks. I'd like to give a special thanks to my superstar Online Facilitator Team: Dr. Jennifer Williams, Dan Ryder, Tim Smyth, Dr. Nabila Missoumi, and Sandra Story, who created an unforgettable experience. I'd also like to thank our alumni mentors: Sara Merino, Somaia Elnaggar, Mohammad Fathy, Abdoulaye, Weika Barathayomi, Faiza Amjad, Mansour Diagne, Mansour Sy, Abeer Koreitem, Nusrat Tashin, Sara Pena, and Petro Okoth, for their amazing support for our teachers and their contributions to this program. Last but not least, a huge thank you to the support from the Office of English Language Programs RELO offices around the world, for your support and exceptional nominations for these program participants.

Jacqueline Gardy

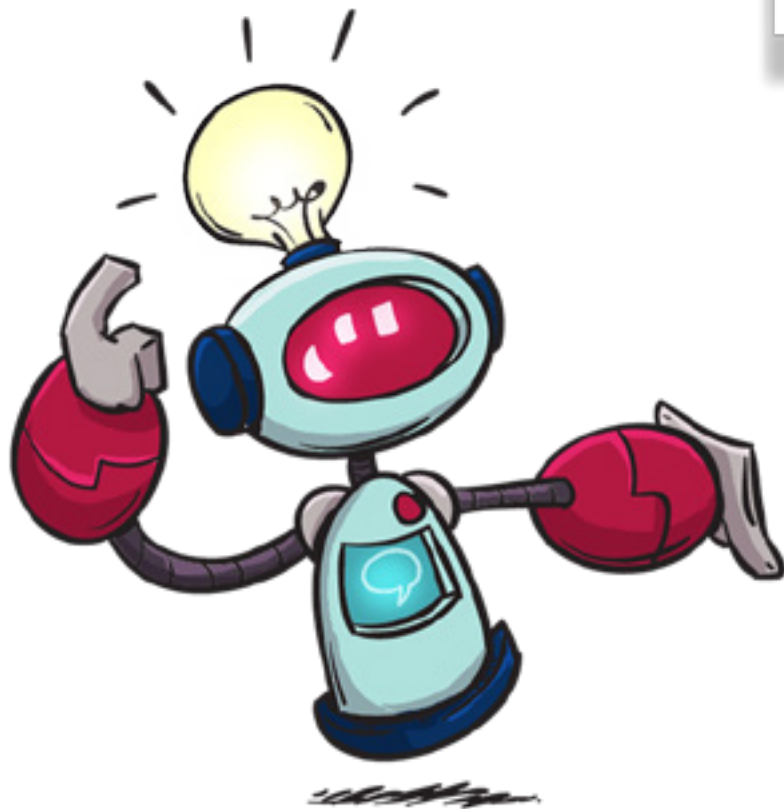


INTRODUCTION

JACQUELINE GARDY, EDITOR

ABOUT THIS VOLUME

This volume contains collected comic stories from the participants of the AE Global Comics Virtual Exchange Program Pilot, Fall 2020. Participants created these comics using Pixton EDU, hand-drawing, or by using a combination of digital tools and comics. Comics are generally read in panels, left to right. Each pair has an introduction to their projects, containing their biographies. We hope you'll enjoy reading these amazing stories!





**ESTELLE
OMENGUE
NDO**
CAMEROON



**AHMED
MITWALLY**
EGYPT

For this project, Estelle created a comic about employment conditions in Egypt, while Ahmed created his comic about access to education in Cameroon.

Estelle has taught both English/French as a Foreign Language to youth and adults since 2009, and she joined the Access Microscholarship three years ago. This Program is located in Bertoua, at the Bertoua Regional Linguistic Centre. She joined this program because she wanted to improve her teaching skills, to complete her training in the use of comics in the classroom, and to bring more fun into her classes. She thinks that comics are fun: they can arouse student's interests and develop their critical thinking skills. Moreover, we could not just do without them for they are everywhere. She has gained a significant benefit from this training and has already started to share her knowledge with her team members. Estelle is currently working on a marketing project, and she suggested the use of comics to the marketing team.

Ahmed has been teaching with Access for three years with the Nuba site in the south of Egypt. He has been an English teacher since 1993. He decided to join the AEC Comics VX program because he wanted to try something new that would improve his teaching skills and make the learning experience funny, exciting, and more beneficial. His favorite part of the program was using Pixton to make project comics panels. His greatest takeaway about using comics in the classroom is that giving the students the opportunity to express themselves without feeling stressed gives the teacher the opportunity to know more about the students and look deeply inside their characters.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

ESTELLE OMENGUE NDO

CAMEROON

There are two qualities associated to the name "Cabralanjo": leadership and determination.

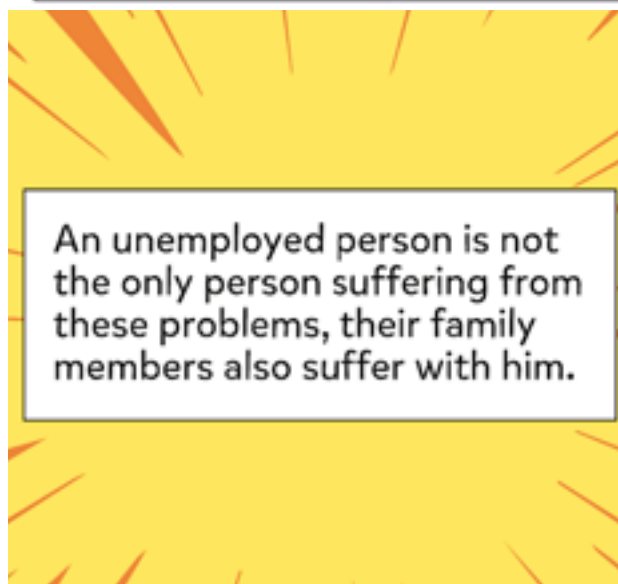
He is the superhero who will put an end to youth unemployment in my community. This assignment offered me an insight into the everyday life of millions of citizens in my community. In fact, it brought me two years back during the presidential election campaign. I thought of a young journalist who has brought hope in the youth community. The youths even referred to him as a kind of change our country needs to be an emergent country. Through his famous editorials, he became the life of the party and his position during the last presidential election was not a surprise. (He was the third.)

Cabralanjo is in his early 40s, tall, slim and dark. He is gregarious, industrious and easy-going. He wears a golden crown, a military uniform, a belt, a magical wand and power boots. His crown helps him speak any language, his yellow uniform protects his body from all weapons, and the belt makes a force field around him. His boots help him run fast and his magical wand turns his enemies into animals.

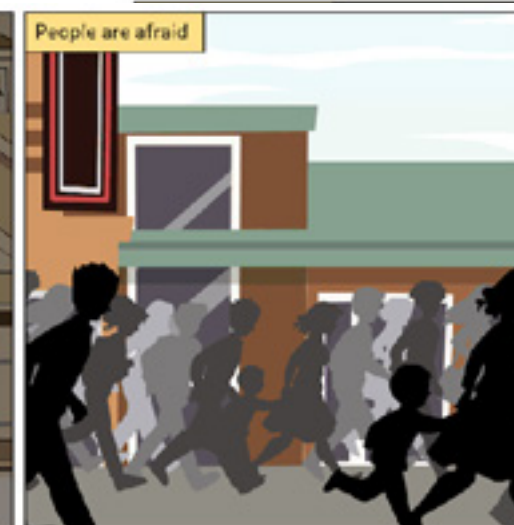
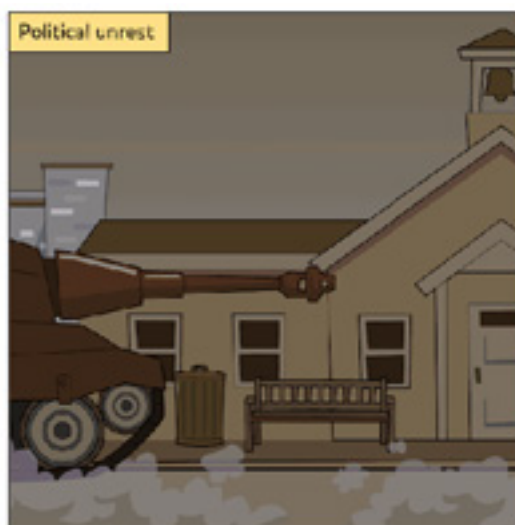
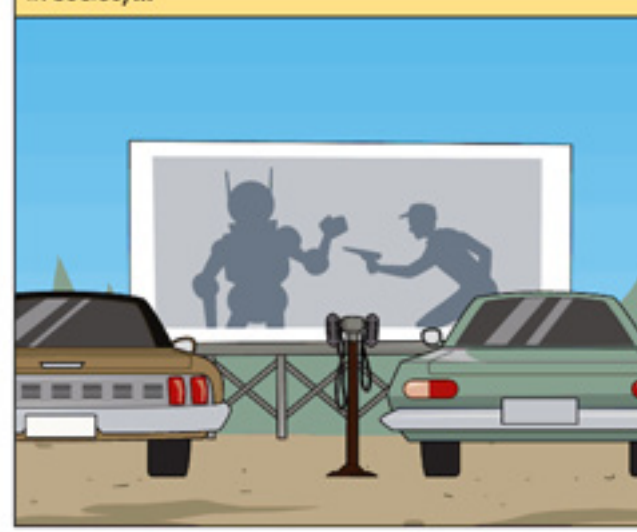
PRINCE CABRALANJO, THE ORIGINS



Lots of young Egyptians are exposed to unemployment or else limited to precarious or short term work.



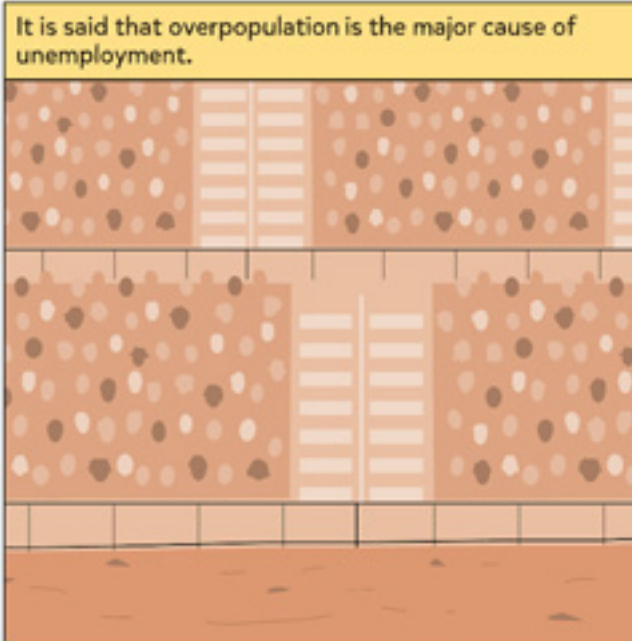
A person who is unable to manage his living cannot be sincere, honest and noble. 25 per cent of youth are unemployed, this situation leads to frustration, crime in society...



The economy is falling-government does not have a comprehensive strategy for job creation.



Jobseekers and underemployed explore imaginative approaches to the youth employment challenge.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

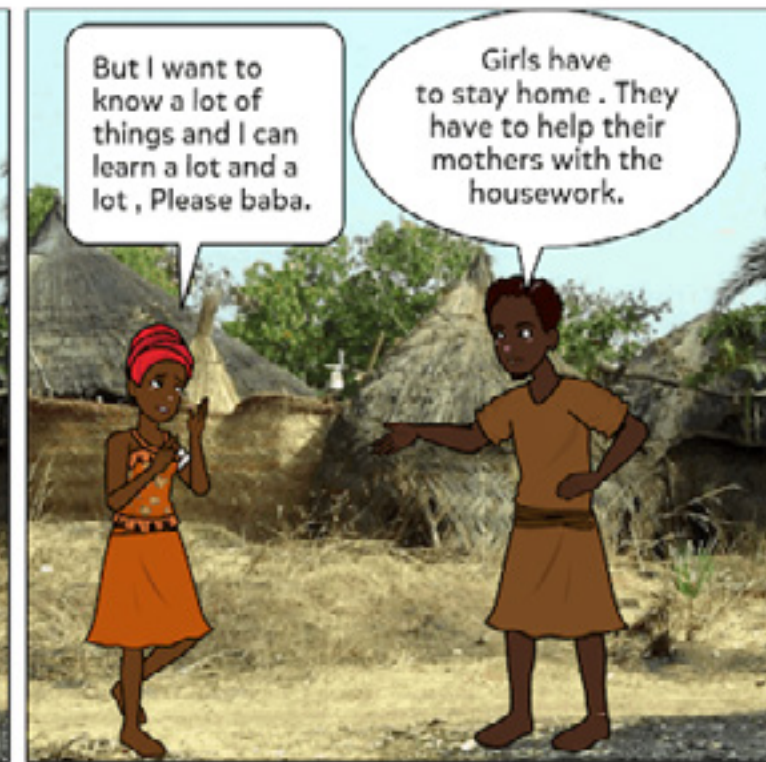
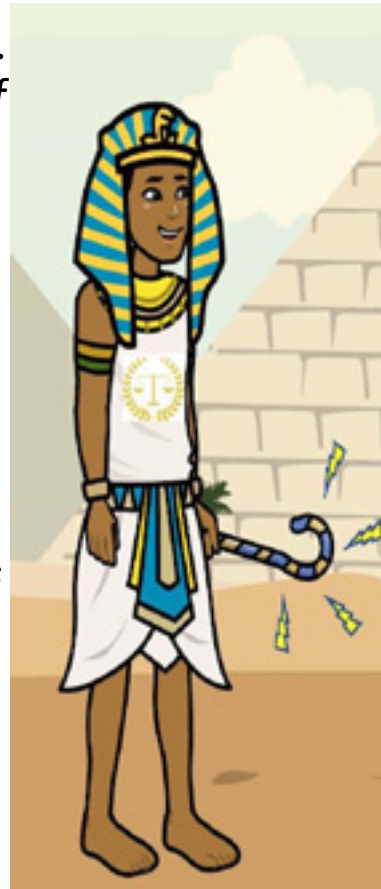
AHMED MITWALLY

EGYPT

Fairo's name comes three words: fair, hero and pharaoh. He fights to stop injustice everywhere. He comes from the first known civilization on Earth, ancient Egypt. He came to make Egypt the land of justice where all people are equal and have the same rights. He has no special power except his intelligence and a magical stick that enables him to control people and move from one place to another in no time.

Fairo never uses violence. He uses funny tricks to defend and protect the poor and the weak.

Fairo can't change his costume so sometimes people think he is a clown or fake who can do nothing. He wears typical pharaonic clothes in white, representing simplicity, innocence, and justice.



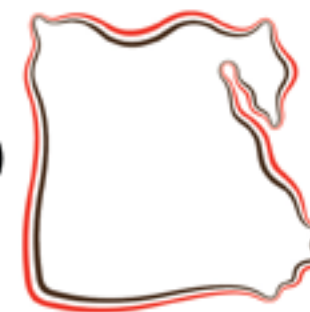




**CHARLES
CHO
ASANJI**
CAMEROON



**NAHLA
MUHAMMED**
EGYPT



**In their projects,
Charles wrote
about gender and
civil rights in
Egypt, and Nahla
wrote about
peace for
Cameroon.**

Charles has been teaching Access students for seven years at the Bertoua Linguistic Center in the East Region of Cameroon. He has been a teacher for twenty-eight years and teaches English as a Foreign Language to students and adults as well as English for Specific Purposes to people from all walks of life. He decided to join the AEC ComicsVX program because other programs he has attended before have had a great impact on his professional development. Watching the videos made the tasks look so easy and inspired those like Charles who were very skeptical about their drawing skills. Charles's greatest take-away is that comics provide a visual image and enable the reader to read the meaning in the choices of colors used and shapes. The reader is more involved in building up the story and this helps in developing critical thinking skills. He has already begun sharing his knowledge with other colleagues and already plans to buy comic books as learning resources.

Nahla has been teaching for five years with Access at Access 12 AUC in Aswan, Egypt. She has been teaching English for Specific Purposes and communication skills for the past twelve years. She joined the AEC ComicsVX program to learn new things and came away with new friendships as well. She plans on holding online workshops to share what she has learned.

GENDER RIGHTS

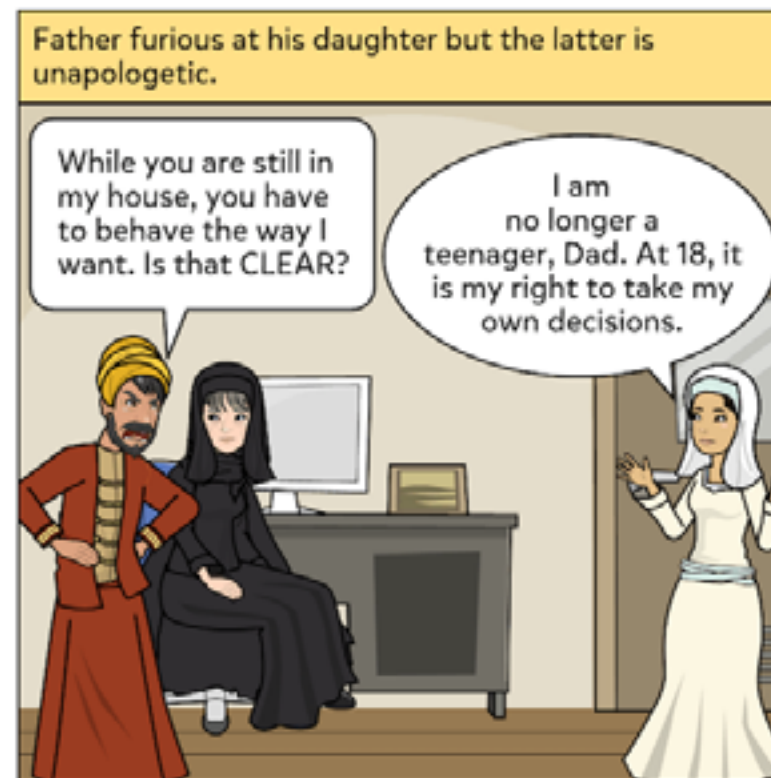
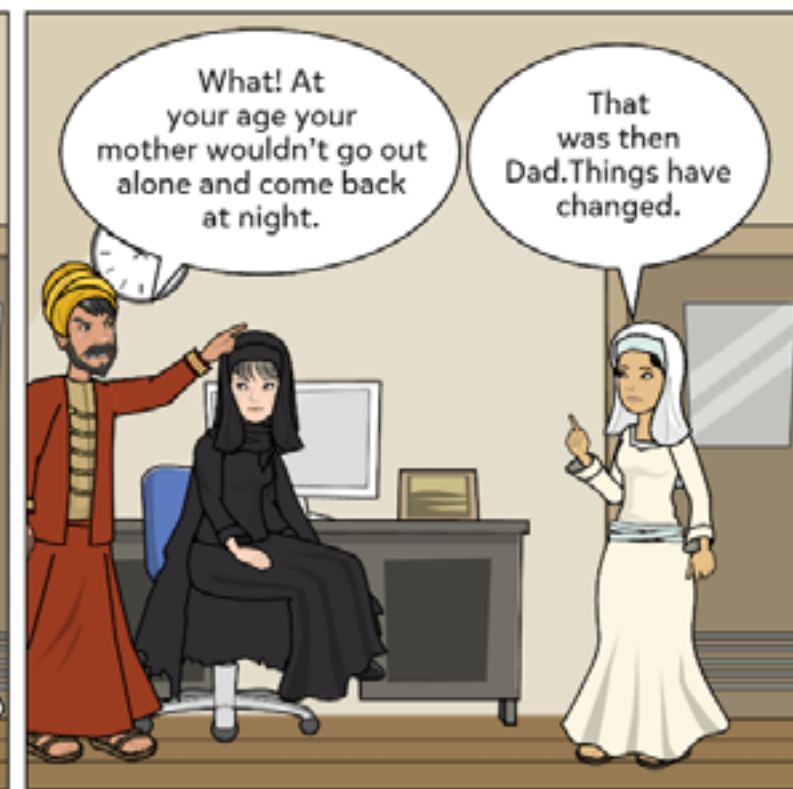
CHARLES CHO ASANJI

CAMEROON

Ruben Um Nyobe was a clerk of the court, trade unionist and syndicalist and a real figure in Cameroon history.

Assassinated on September 13, 1958 at the age of 45, Nyobe was nicknamed "Mpodol" in his native language meaning "Spokesperson." In this capacity, Nyobe led the resistant movement at home and abroad against colonialism and any form of discrimination: racial, tribal, sex and social prejudices. He championed the fight against colonialism and spoke at the United Nations in favor of reunification and independence of Cameroon.

Beside his human qualities like courage, determination and love for country, he seemed capable of being in two places at the same time. He would seem invisible. He used this power to escape being caught by the forces that were opposing him.





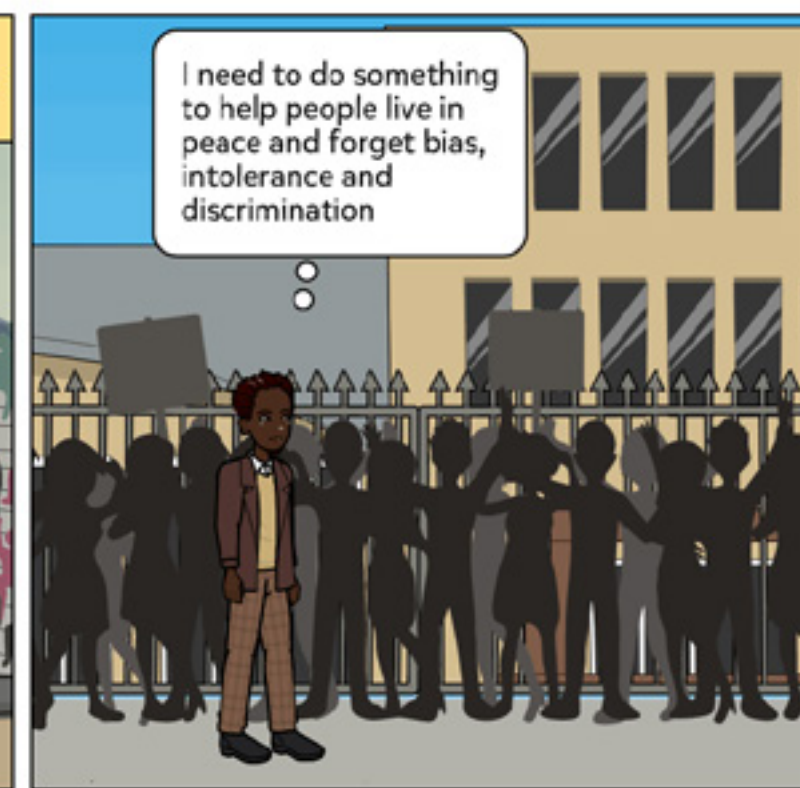
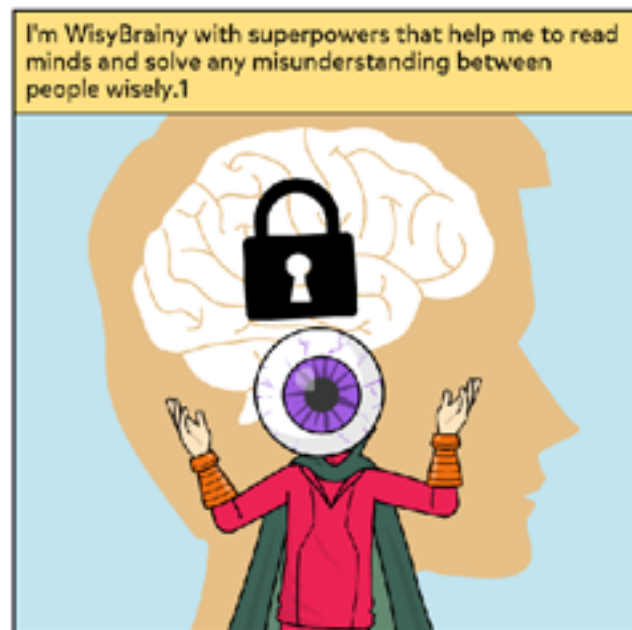
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

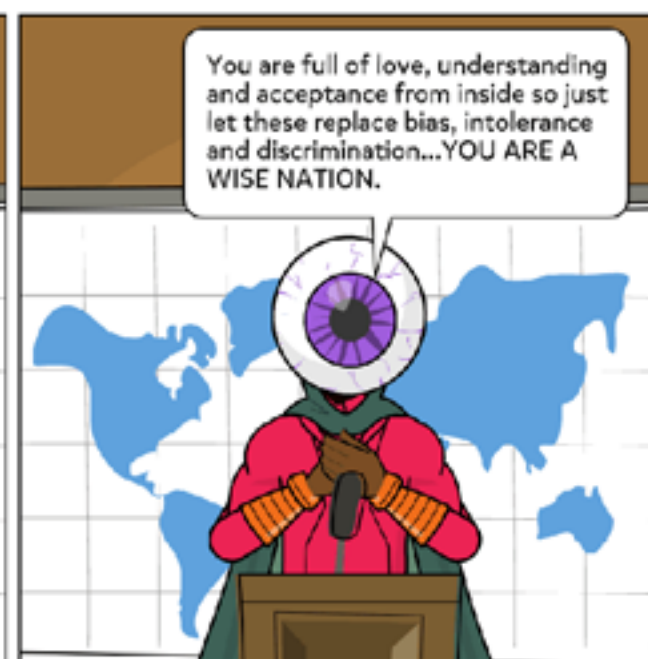
NAHLA MUHAMMED

EGYPT

WisyBrainy is a mind-reader, problem solver and a healer for broken-hearted. My superhero is a human being, but the God of Wisdom has granted him a unique head with one big eye to see the truth and the inner thoughts and intentions of people.

His superpowers are reading minds and flying. He uses these powers to solve problems and eliminates any misunderstanding or hatred for good. He is sensitive and kind and does not have any physical powers but his wisdom and his powerful brain. My superhero clothes are designed to help him fly freely and quickly.







KIM BALLESTEROS

THAILAND



ERALI TOROGELDIEV

KYRGYZSTAN



- **Kim and Erali worked together to create comics about each others' countries. Kim wrote about infrastructure concerns in Kyrgyzstan and Erali wrote about environmental awareness in Thailand.**

This is **Kim's** first year with Access at the American Alumni University Language Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand. She has been teaching since 2017. At the Language Center, she teaches English; she also homeschools her children. She started as an ESL teacher in Beijing, China, and has also worked as a product trainer for an American distribution company in the Philippines. Comics have been a part of Kim's life since she was a child; she believes they played a role in her love for reading and graphic novels. So, she joined the program in hopes of improving her teaching methods and helping her students learn in new and interesting ways. She enjoyed the collaboration with people from around the world and the way the program was structured. This program opened tremendous opportunities for her students and herself to broaden their horizons.

Erali has been a teacher with Access since 2019 but has been working with the program since 2017 as a coordinator. His Access site is Osh Madrassah Access Program, and he coordinates the Kadamzhai, Kerben, and Nookat Access Program sites in the south of Kyrgyzstan. He has been teaching English and Computers for five years. Erali found all the parts of the program amazing, and he looks forward to organizing an online workshop for other Access teachers where he can share with them about teaching with comics and the many tools he has learned about. He would like to express his gratitude to the American English Language Office for organizing a very interesting, useful, and fun program. He is thankful for facilitators and mentors and their constant support. He also shares his appreciation for the US Embassy in Kyrgyz Republic and the RELOs. He was very happy to join this AEC Comics VX because he found new faces and new friends and got a lot from the program.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

KIM BALLESTEROS

THAILAND

Kham is a monk who grew up in a monastery deep in Thailand's jungle. He wears a saffron robe and a male, a traditional spiritual device around his neck.

The monks spend their days meditating and enhancing their fighting skills to protect nature from poachers, loggers and natural calamities. They are the guardians of our planet.

Kham was born blind, but what he lacks in vision he makes up with his enhanced and heightened senses. He can control energy through sound vibration when he chants a beautiful solfeggio frequency.

He does however, feel vulnerable when he senses negative energy. His challenge is to restore the balance in nature by helping our planet recover — rewinding nature by protecting jungles and species from human activity.



FUN FACT: PLANET EARTH IS 4.5 BILLION YEARS OLD.

MANKIND? ABOUT 140,000 YEARS OLD. LET ME PUT THAT IN PERSPECTIVE: IF YOU CONDENSE THE EARTH'S LIFESPAN INTO 24 HOURS, THAT'S ONE FULL DAY, THEN WE HAVE BEEN HERE ON THIS PLANET FOR...

...DRUMROLL PLEASE...THREE SECONDS.

THREE SECONDS, AND LOOK WHAT WE'VE DONE.

THIS IS WHAT WE MUST RECOGNIZE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE. BECAUSE THE REAL CRISIS IS NOT GLOBAL WARMING, ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION, OR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE. IT IS US. THESE PROBLEMS ARE SYMPTOMS OF US. BYPRODUCTS OF US. BUT IT IS UP TO YOU. YES, YOU WATCHING THIS BEHIND THIS SCREEN TO MAKE THE EFFORT. BECAUSE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. AND ONLY TOGETHER CAN WE MAKE IT TO THE FOURTH SECOND.

PRINCE EA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7n2uR2n5Ed4&list=UWm1b10go>



MAN VS EARTH

THERE IS NO OTHER WAY I MUST
LEARN FROM THE DEFENDERS OF
OUR PLANET

WE NEED MORE INDIVIDUALS TO AWAKEN TO
THE REALITY OF OUR MANY CRISES TODAY, AND
WE NEED TO EMPOWER EVERYONE WITH AN
EARNEST DESIRE TO CHANGE THIS REALITY.

BUT, IT IS A DANGEROUS AND
CHALLENGING PATH.
I DON'T KNOW IF I HAVE THE COURAGE.



MEANWHILE BACK IN THE HOSPITAL..



PEOPLE LIVING IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE TIEN SHAN MOUNTAINS IN SOUTHERN KYRGYZSTAN FACE AN UNUSUALLY HIGH RISK OF LANDSLIDES. FORTUNATELY, WE WERE SAVED MINUTES BEFORE THE LANDSLIDE DEPOSIT HIT THE GROUND.



THESE ROADS ARE MUCH STURDIER. WE MADE THESE ROADS USING METHODS WE LEARNED FROM OUR MAYAN BROTHERS.



I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP AND TEACHINGS, BROTHER.
AS WELL AS MAKING BETTER ROADS FOR OUR PEOPLE.

WISDOM KNOWS THAT EVERY ACTION HAS AN EQUAL AND OPPOSITE REACTION.
-PRINCE EA

WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO AWAKEN TO THE REALITY OF OUR MANY CRISES TODAY.

WORRY NOT, BROTHER. PEOPLE ARE BECOMING MORE AWARE. DON'T LOSE HOPE.



PROTECTING
MOTHER NATURE
NEVER
ENDS
THE TIME IS NOW.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

ERALI TOROGELDIEV

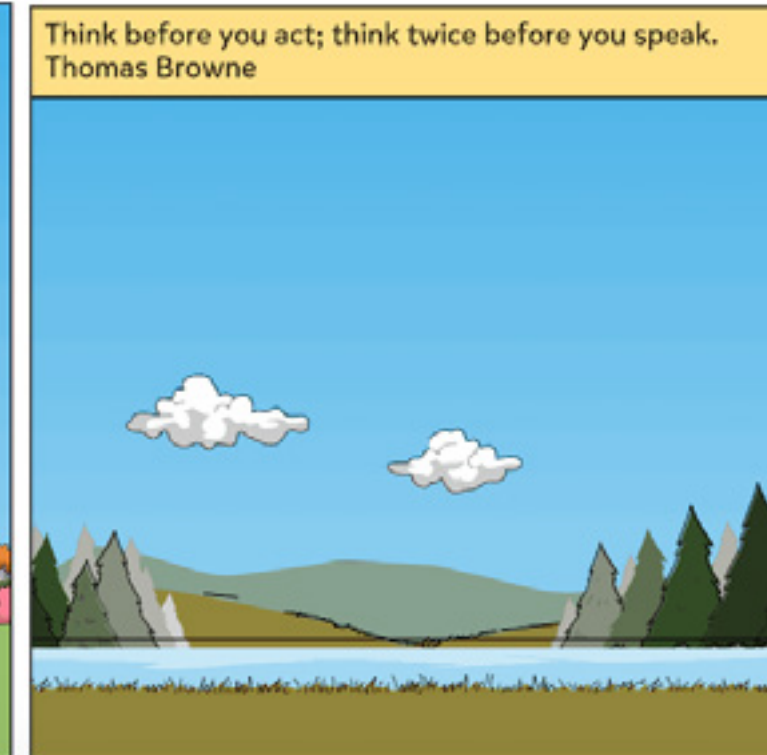
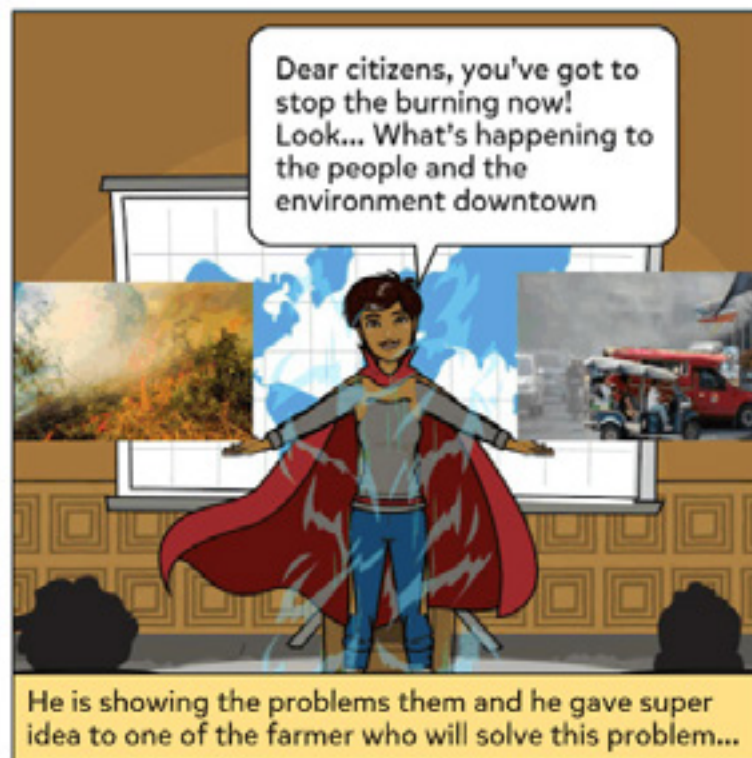
KYRGYZSTAN

When I started thinking about the problems that we have in our country I couldn't count, because it was a lot. I thought the biggest problems in my country are corruption, injustice, violence, abuse, discrimination and ethnic conflicts. And, I think my superhero can solve these problems.

My superhero is a woman who is kind, sensitive, thoughtful, careful, and active. She works for the community in order to stop and solve all problems listed above.

-Erali







**In their stories,
Sayeda wrote about
medical services in
Kenya, while Selinah
wrote about road
accidents in
Bangladesh.**

SAYEDA FATEMA

BANGLADESH



SELINAH OYINEGO

KENYA



Sayeda teaches at the Language Proficiency Centre in Chottogram, Bangladesh, and has been with the Access Program since 2017. She has taught at different schools and colleges for the last seven years and is currently serving as a lecturer at the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Creative Technology Chittagong (UCTC). She has been very fond of comics since my childhood. So, when she heard about the AEComicsVX course of using comics in the classroom, she wanted to join. For her, creating a superhero to solve the problems of her country and her friend's community was the best part of the course. Sayeda's greatest takeaway from this course is that the opportunity of using comics materials in language teaching, which are on the one hand funny and on the other hand engaging, can be the powerful tool to develop the four skills of language. Since the research area of her PhD is on teaching writing, the idea of using comics will be helpful to boost and guide her research.

Selinah is a high school teacher of English and Literature who has taught for close to fifteen years. She is also a graduate student studying linguistics at a local university. She lives and works in Malindi, a small town on the coast of Kenya. Her Access site is Malindi Progressive Academy, where she has been an Access teacher for two years now. This was her first time to participate in the Access program and she must admit she has enjoyed myself in a way she never thought possible! AEComicsVX has changed the way she views the teaching of English. She believes that if she incorporates the ideas she has learnt from this course to her teaching, learning for her students will be much more fun and engaging. What her colleagues may not know about her is that apart from teaching, she enjoys writing novels, short stories and even plays. A children's story book she co-authored with a friend 'The Last Chapo and Other Stories' was published in 2019. She also enjoys playing the piano and learning music.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

SAYEDA FATEMA

BANGLADESH

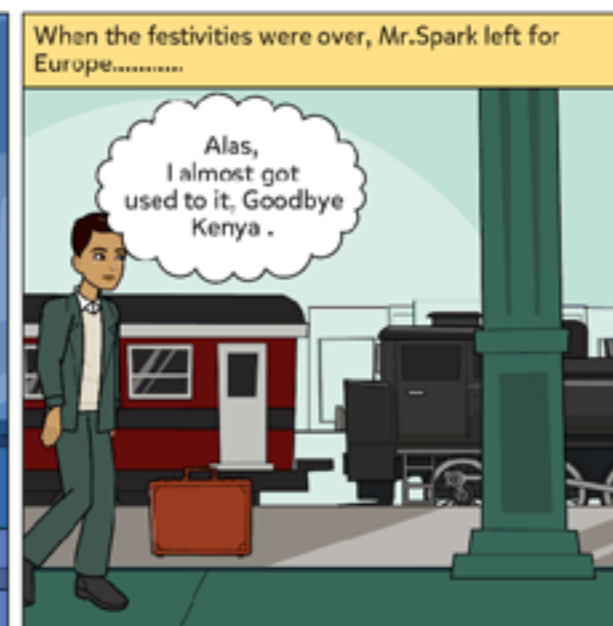
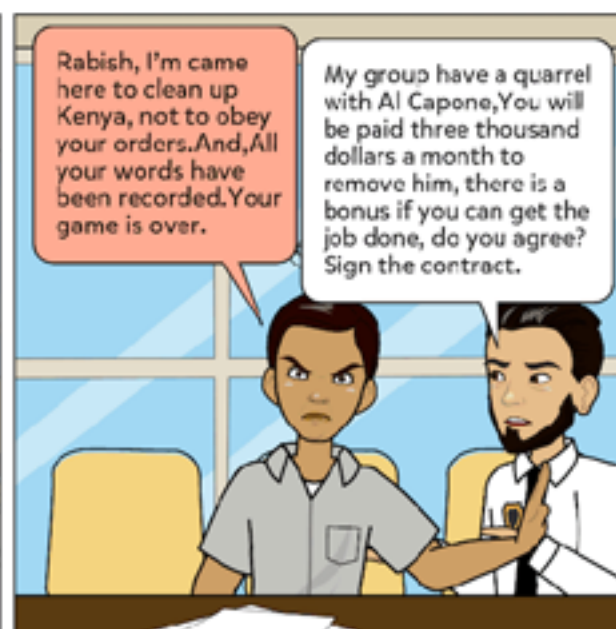
Spark is a computer scientist who is a survivor of a helicopter crash conspiracy while traveling with his scientist parents. He was found and brought up by another scholar who noticed a kind of light sparks from the boy's heart. The scholar named him Spark with the hope that his sense of justice will be sparked everywhere.

With Spark's new software invention, along with his super natural power, he can sense any bad occurrences prior to their occurrence and can take proper steps accordingly.

Spark possesses a unique personality with an intelligent look and doesn't disclose his super power except in some exceptional cases. As a human being, Spark suffers from morbidity and nothing can prevent him from decaying.







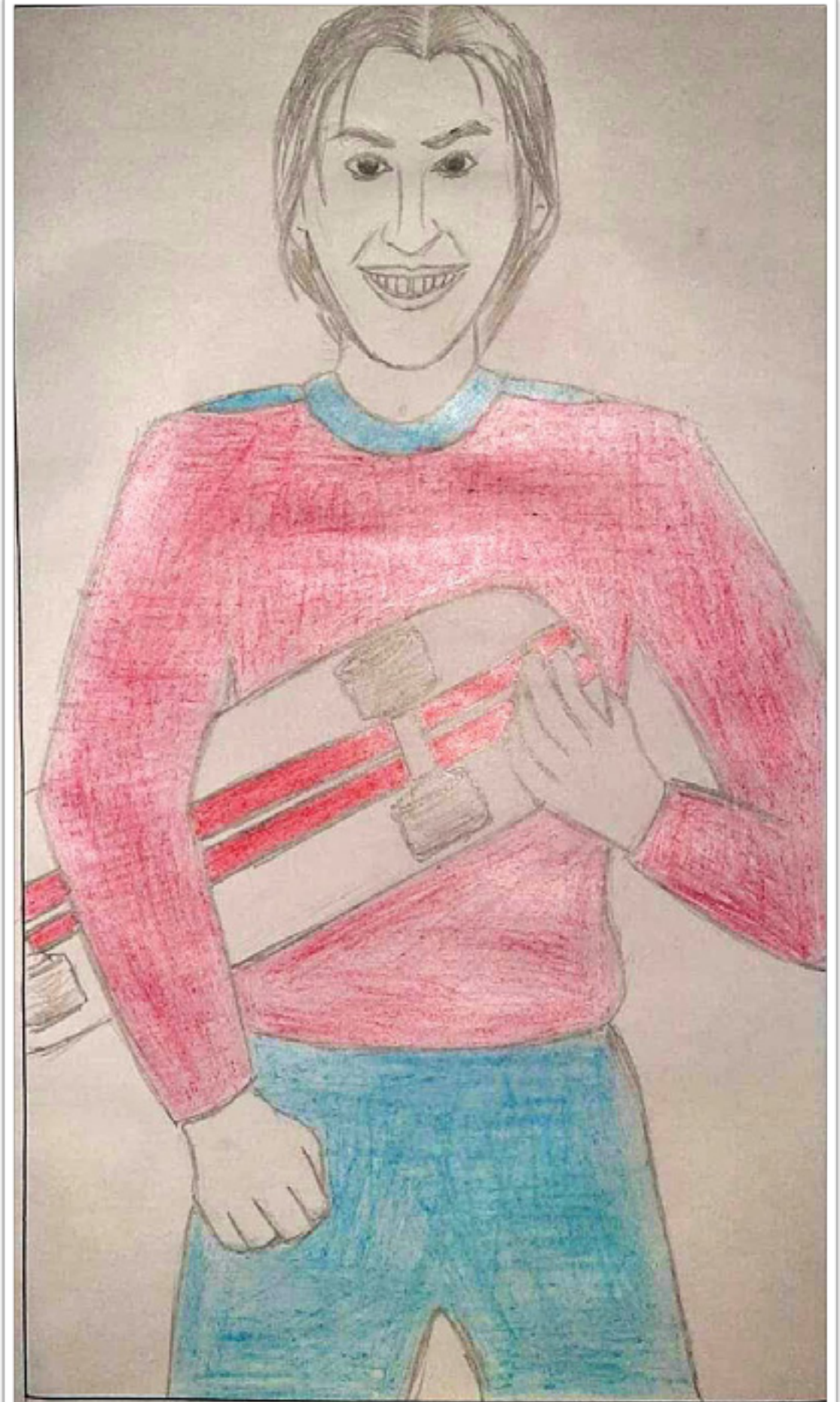
SELINAH OYINEGO

KENYA

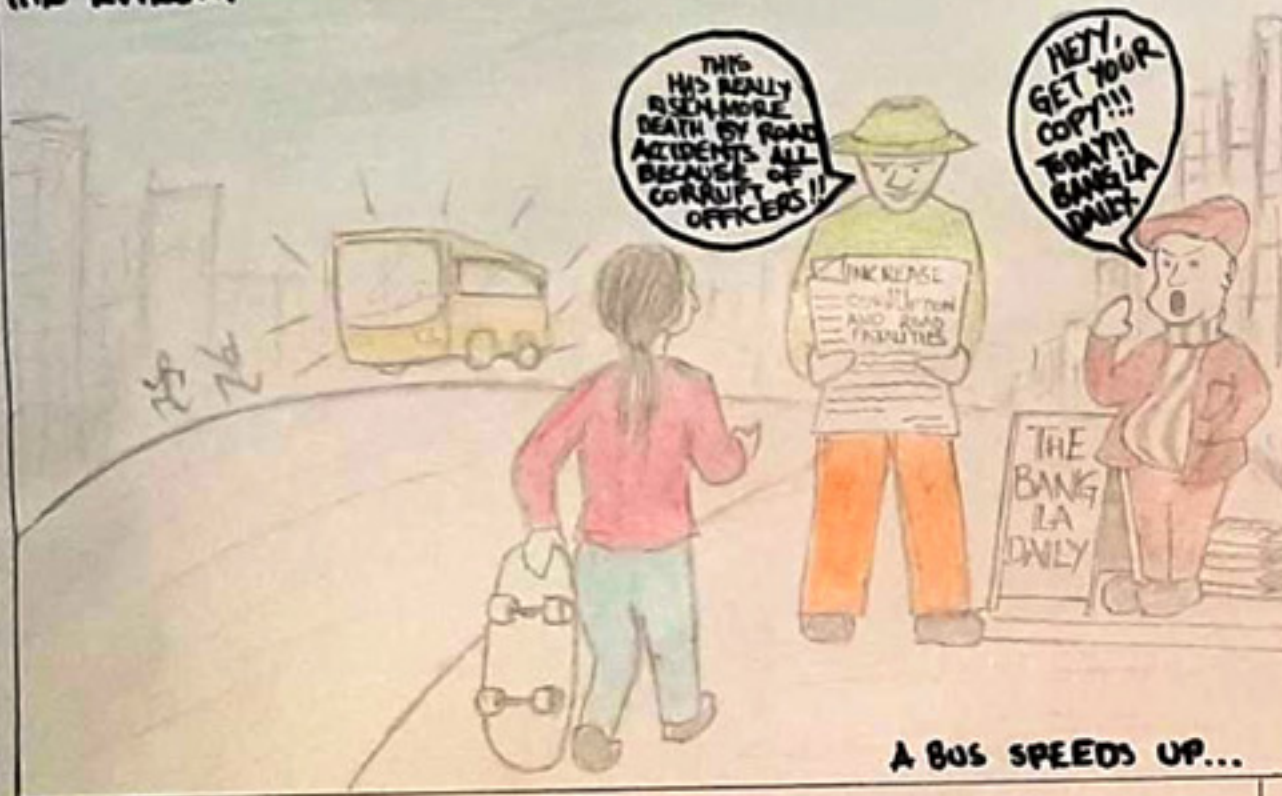
A seventeen year old girl, Chomess, gets her name from a Kiswahili word 'choma' which means 'burn.' At the age of three, Chomess lost her entire family, her parents and two siblings, in a fire after her family's residence was set ablaze by rowdy youths after an election gone awry. An old man going through the remains of the burnt houses finds Chomess unhurt among the destroyed things. Chomess survives the fire because she's fire proof. The old man hides her in the forest where he lives and teaches her martial arts plus virtues of honesty, integrity, faithfulness, empathy and selflessness.

Chomess can move at a very high speed on her skateboard. She uses her special powers to rush accident victims to hospital and where possible to prevent accidents from happening. She helps police officers arrest criminals and rescues people from burning buildings and vehicles.

Since she is just a teenager, she longs to have friends of her age and this puts her at risk of being captured by her enemies: corrupt politicians and criminals. Chomess wears boys' clothes to disguise herself. She is also a student at a local secondary school and loves to glide on her skateboard when she's free.



CHOMESS TAKES A STROLL IN BANGLADESH CITY, HEARING OF THE EVILS...



SHE CLEARLY SEES A SMOKING, DRUNK SCHOOL BUS DRIVER...



CHOMESS TAKES OFF AFTER THE BUS ON HER SKATEBOARD...



BUS IS STOPPED BY THE TRAFFIC POLICE ...

DRUNK DRIVING, EXPIRED INSURANCE AND NO DRIVING LICENCE.. THAT WILL BE 50 TAKA



...HOLDING, GRABBING
HANDCUFFS THEM...



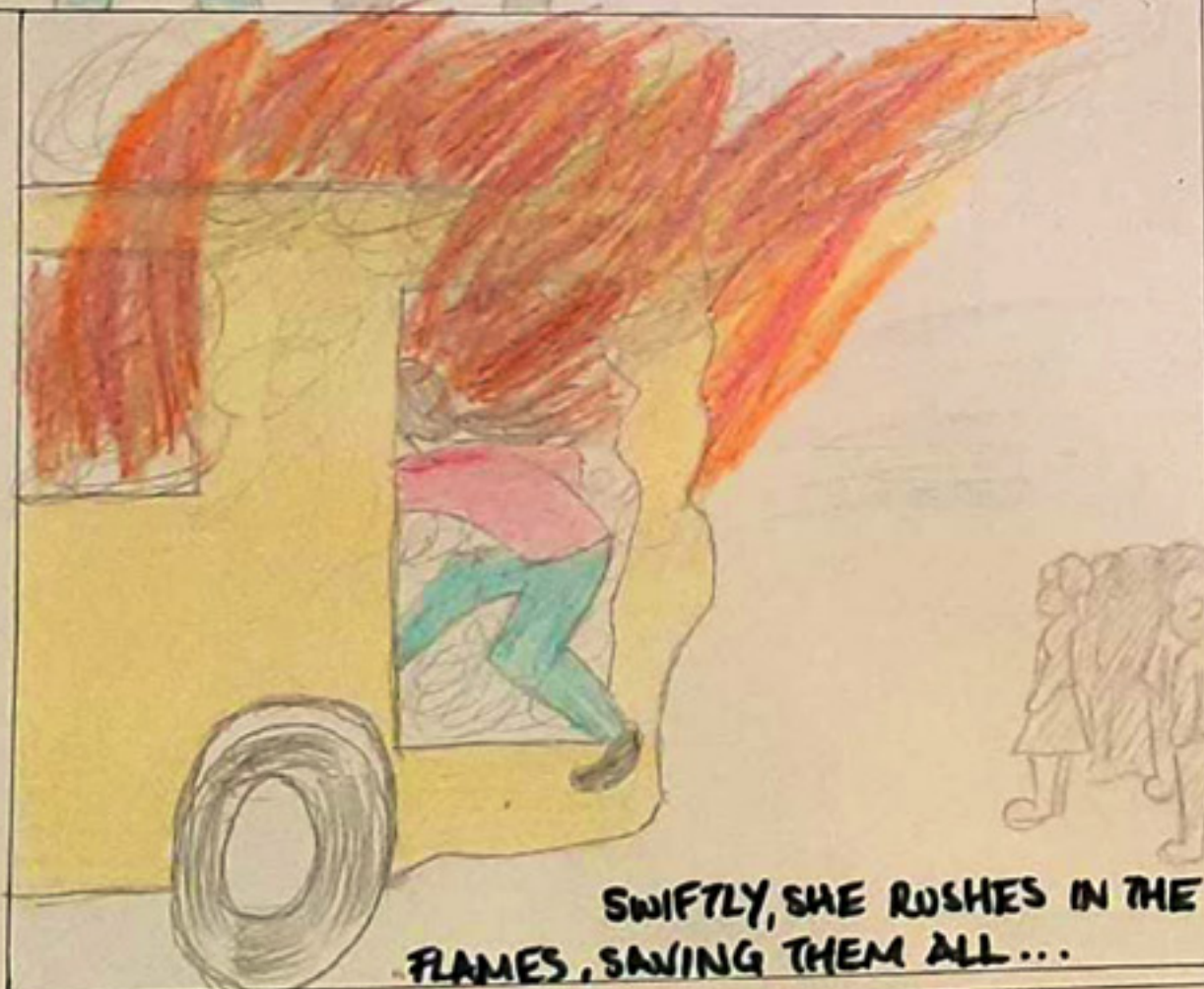
HELP!!
FIRE!!

BANG



THE BUS HITS A
GUARDRAIL AND BURSTS INTO FLAMES...

SHE TAKES THEM ALL TO THE
POLICE STATION...



SWIFTLY, SHE RUSHES IN THE
FLAMES, SAVING THEM ALL...

DON'T MISS
YOUR COPY
TOMORROW
BANG LA
DAILY.

POLICE STATION

HOORAH!!
HOORAH!!

FINALLY SOME PEACE
AND JOY FOR THE TOWN!!



KATERYNA FILATOVA

UKRAINE



KETEVAN PAPAVA

GEORGIA



Kateryna and Ketevan connected their classrooms several times through class-to-class virtual exchange during the Fall 2020 program.

Ketevan wrote about language and culture in Ukraine, and Kateryna wrote about literacy challenges in Georgia.

Kateryna has been teaching with Access for three years and is with Access Teachers Ukraine and Access Dnipro. She teaches in Dnipro in the central part of Ukraine. She has been a teacher for twelve years and teaches various subjects. She currently specializes in exam preparation for teens and adults and in teaching General and Business English for adults. She decided to join the AEC Comics VX program out of curiosity because she couldn't understand how comics could be used in English Lessons except for guided reading. She also loves watching superhero movies and anime and thought she could try drawing something herself. Her favorite moment was watching her students participate in a Virtual Exchange and proudly talk about Ukraine and themselves, collaborate with students from Georgia and Egypt to complete the task on comics, and compete on their knowledge of Halloween traditions.

Ketevan has been teaching--unbelievably!--with Access for nine years at Access Batumi Micro Scholarship Program, Georgia. She has been teaching English Language for twenty-one years, and is always curious to find out new ideas in the profession and, when given the opportunity, was happy to join this program. Ketevan realized she can use comics as a tool for developing critical thinking. She has already started using comics in her Access classes but also plans to have workshops with other Access teachers in the country.

KATERYNA FILATOVA

UKRAINE

Please welcome Beregynia /be-re-gi-nja/- the Ukrainian national superhero. Her names comes from "bereg" - "to guard" as she protects our country and "-nia" is a typical ending of Ukrainian female names.

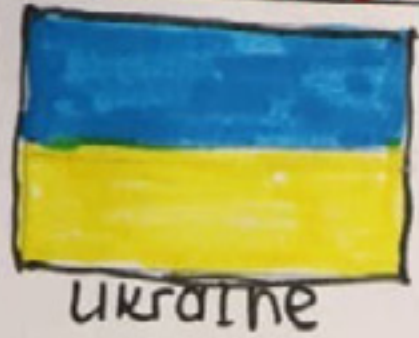
While creating this superhero, I was thinking a lot what our national characteristics are. Are they what we really feel or what other nations think of us? I tried to combine both to reveal my superhero's identity, and I feel really proud as it was a self-reflection of who I am in this country, too.

One of the challenges I faced was the problems my superhero can solve because one person cannot be almighty and do everything. So, it took me a great deal of time to choose the most crucial issues we face in our country nowadays like war, occupation of territories, illnesses and corruption on all levels.

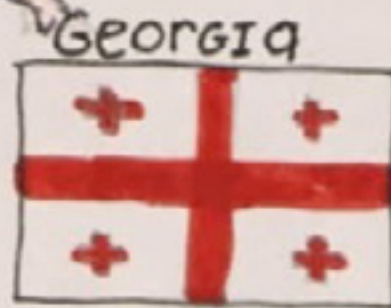
What is common for national superheroes that I observe now is that most of them are strong and purposeful female characters who are trying to improve the situation or meet various challenges to achieve their goals.



Georgia Calling BY Kate Filatova



Hi! I'm Beregyvia!
I'm flying to
Georgia to help
them with
one of the
issues



Hi!
How can I help?



Hi! We need to deal
with **illiteracy**

our system
of education
is old and
ineffective

It influen-
ces many
spheres
of our
Life!



Illnesses

Covid-19



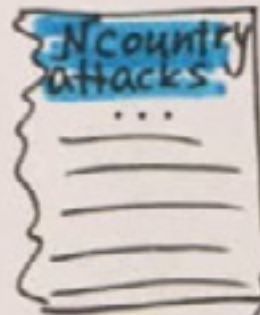
MASKS ARE
unnecessary

Virus
Doesn't
exist

Quarantine
is
Useless!

LACK OF INFO ⇒
PANIC & PANDEMIC

War



FAKE NEWS



Where's
the truth?

FAKE INFO ⇒
EASY MANIPULATION

Country President

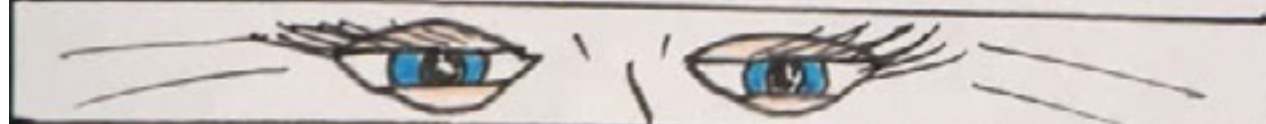
GOVERNMENT ? Court



⇒ Corruption

WHY DO I HAVE TO PAY
TAXES?

NOT OBEYING LAWS ⇒
CORRUPTION



No_Fake_News



❤️ LIKE 💬 Comment ➡ Share @KATE_FILATOVA_2020

KETEVAN PAPAVA

GEORGIA

Geostar is a unisex person in its mid ages. It got its name from the name of the country Geo-rgia. People honored it and added "Star" due to its contributions and dedication.

Geostar helps people to get education and identify right from wrong. Also, it raises awareness among the population concerning the obedience toward the law and pushes people to work harder.

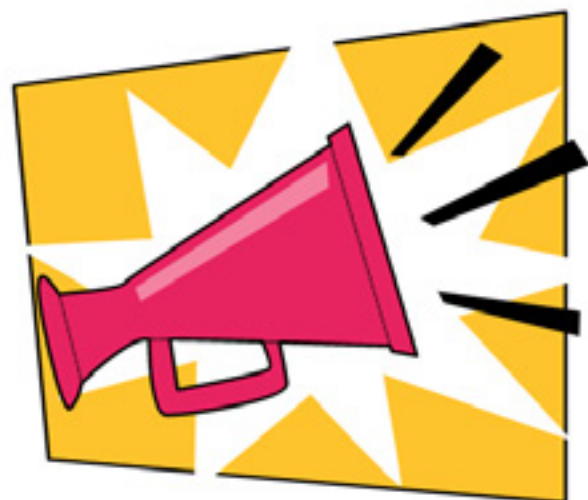
Most interesting is my superhero's roots, its ancestors. Its mother was from Greece and father from Egypt. Its grandparents were from Maia tribe. It inherited all the wisdom from old history.

Geostar has the power to persuade any person at any time and enlighten all with any knowledge. It uses those powers only for good deeds. It values wisdom, hard work, literacy, generosity, patience, freedom.

It usually wears a greyish suit and sneakers because it needs to walk a lot. Nowadays it has a mask, too. Its personal life is full of mystery, as it does not share anything about it.



Don't ignore, act!



There is no need to do anything, it is not my problem ...

Yes, you are right, today it is not your problem, but think about you and your family tomorrow! If you do not act today, tomorrow never comes!



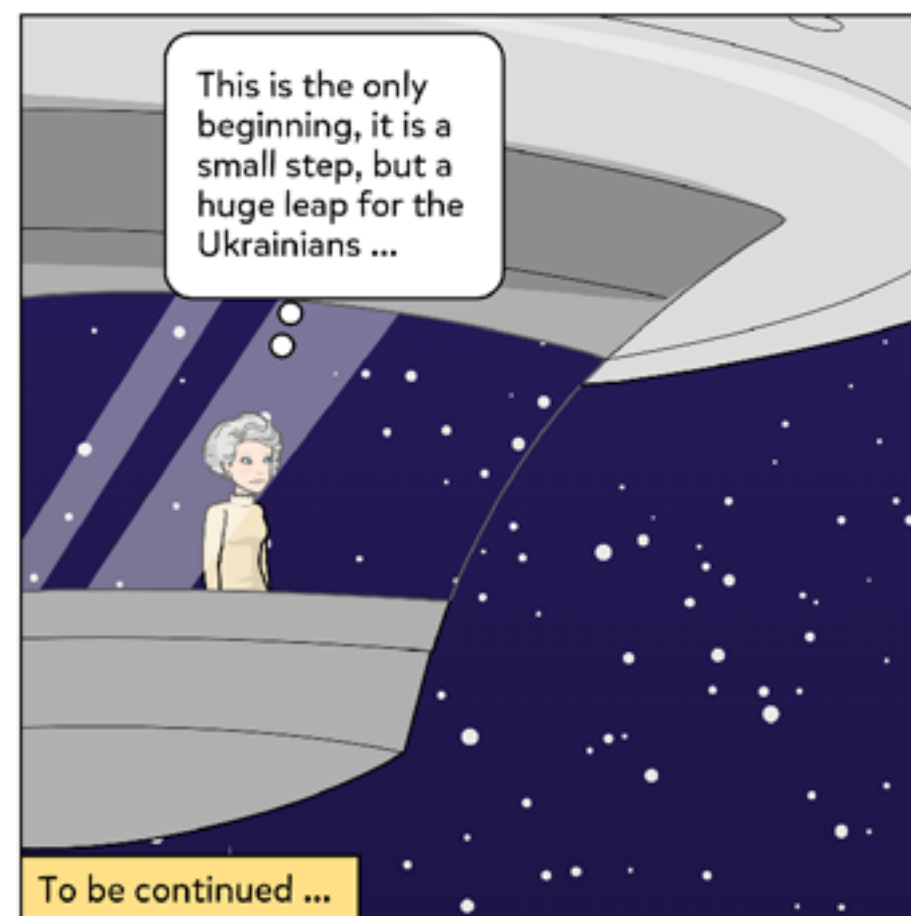
Yes, we are the change, we can!



We have to learn how to work hard and respect the law



This is the only beginning, it is a small step, but a huge leap for the Ukrainians ...



To be continued ...



RIADH OUACHANI

TUNISIA



MD EFTEKHAR UDDIN

BANGLADESH



Riadh and Eftekhar worked together to create comic stories about each others' countries. Riadh wrote about civil unrest in Bangladesh and Eftekhar wrote about the importance of having a positive mindset in Tunisia.

Riadh has been teaching with Access since 2011 and is with Access Program Djerba in Houmt Souk, Djerba, Tunisia. He teaches English as a second language and has been teaching for nineteen years. He decided to join the AEC ComicsVX program because he wanted to enrich his knowledge and learn new techniques to use in teaching. Riadh enjoyed using Pixton to design his comic stories, and his greatest takeaway is how to use comics to motivate students. He believes comics are one of the best tools to enhance students' critical thinking skills.

Eftekhar has been with Access for nine years so far and is with the Language Proficiency Center (LPC) Chattogram. Outside of the Access program, his teaching spans almost two decades. He teaches various subjects in English Language and Literature and Research Methods at the International Islamic University Chittagong. Comics was a new avenue for him to explore and made him interested to be a part of this program. He was particularly taken with the use of Canvas and has already started using Canvas and comics creation in his own teaching.

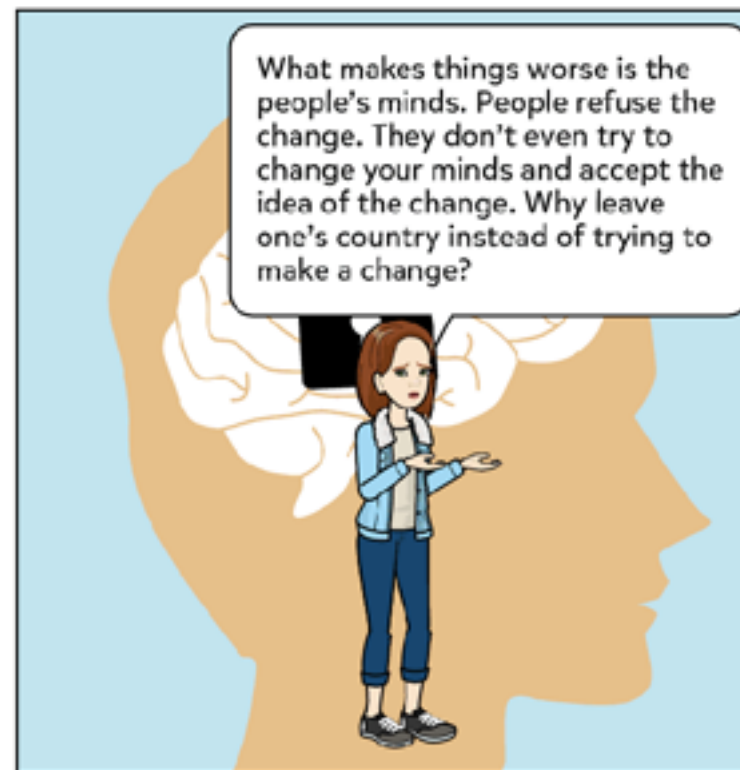
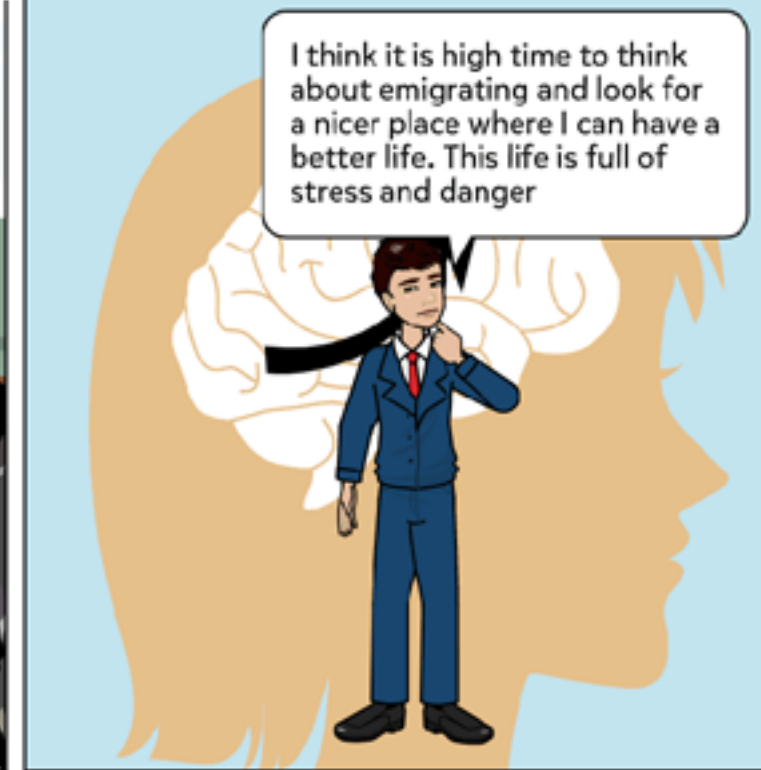
SOCIAL JUSTICE

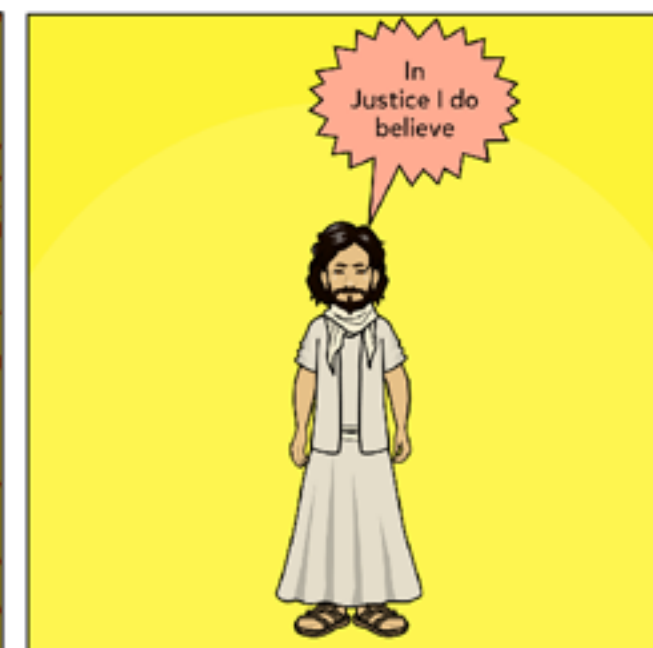
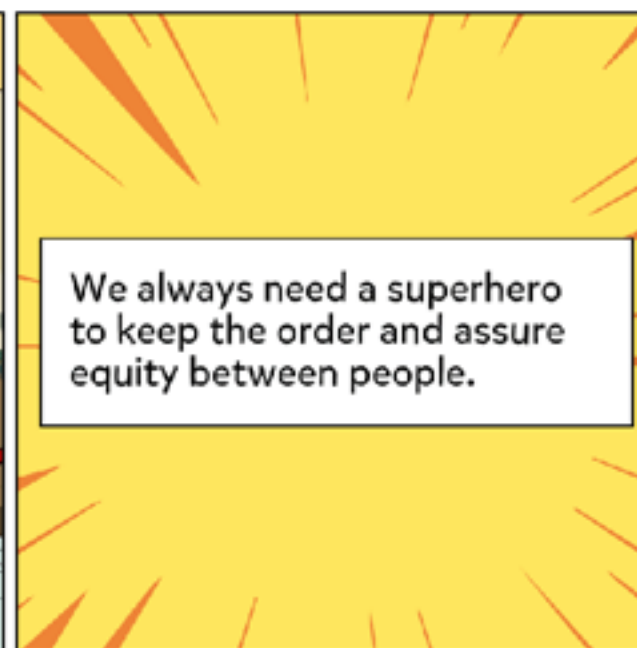
RIADH OUACHANI

TUNISIA

My superhero is called The Iron Man. His presence assures justice and equity among all people. He is very strong and his looks frighten anybody who thinks to play truant or despise others.

He has nothing special like a mask or a costume. But his simple clothes make him a simple peasant from the first look. His severe look frightens people and make think twice before they act.



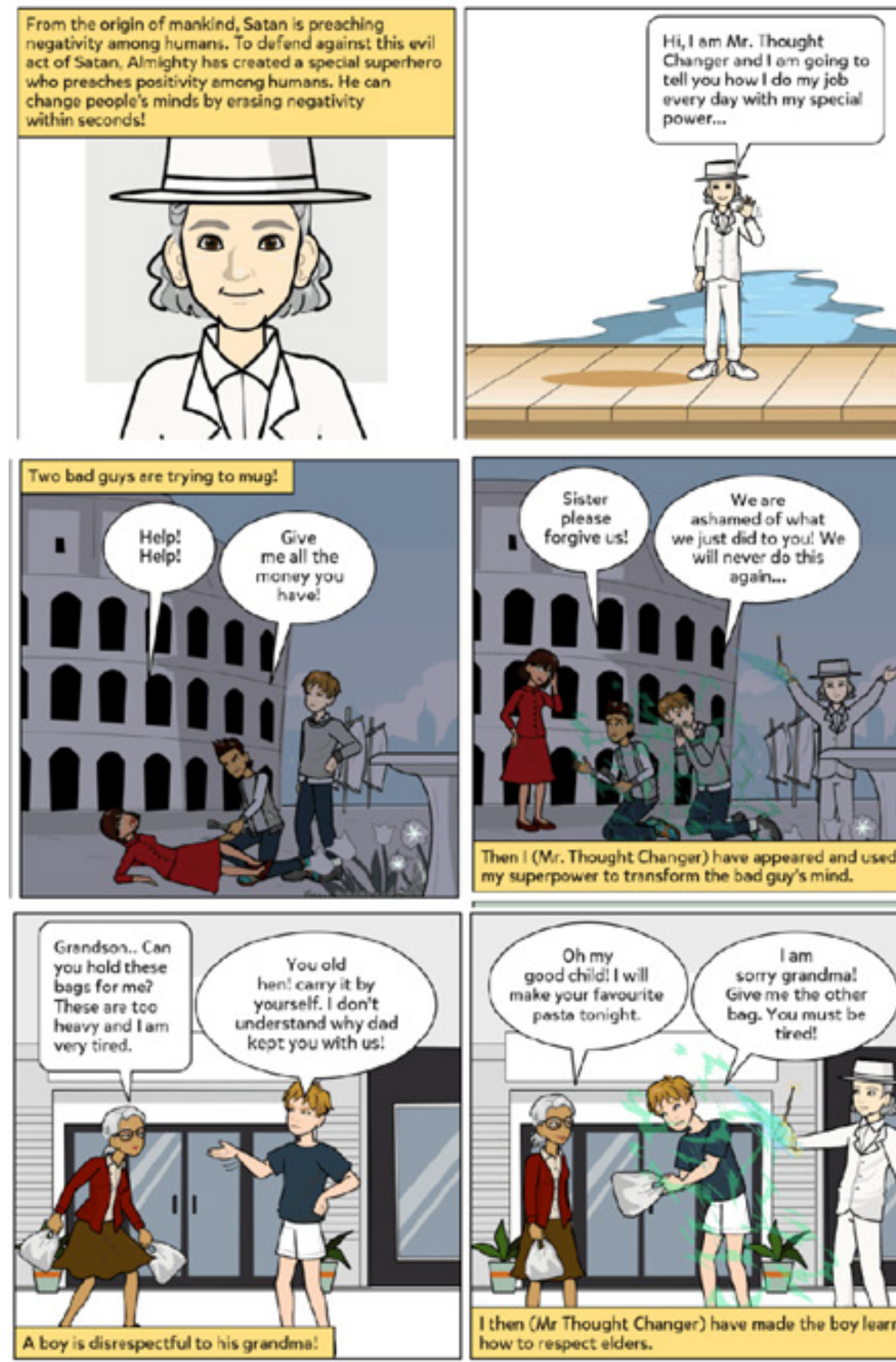


SOCIAL JUSTICE

MD EFTEKHAR UDDIN

BANGLADESH

My superhero is the 'Thought Changer'. He transforms negativity of one's mind into positive one. He is a common man who reaches uncommon heights with his superpower. His power is generated through his hands that changes mentality. He is able to be invisibly present at any place where negativity is prevailing. The white attire of the superhero spreads positivity as well. He represents the innate good soul that exists in everybody. Only the materialistic surrounding clouds it and makes it cease to function. It simply needs superpower assistance to emerge breaking the grip of negativity. Briefly, my superhero is the reflection of the belief that only attitudinal change can root out all the malices of the society.







MOHIB ULLAH

BANGLADESH



AMNA KHAN

PAKISTAN



Mohib and Amna did a wonderful job using their superheroes to come up with solutions in each other's countries. Mohib wrote about law enforcement in Pakistan, and Amna wrote about education and equality in Bangladesh.

Mohib has been teaching with Access for the last ten years at Access Chittagong by Language Proficiency Center. He has been teaching for more than eighteen years at the Department of English Language and Literature at International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC) at both the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. Mohib joined the AEC ComicsVX program to learn more about comics, how they are made, how they can be used to teach English, and how they can be used to sharpen people's creativity. His greatest take-away about using comics in the classroom is the realization that the creative use of comics in the classroom might help learners not only improve their language skills but also trigger their critical thinking skills. Moreover, comics can be used to raise learners' awareness of inequalities and problems that they can address as active agents of change. Mohib will share his learning from AEC ComicsVX with his colleagues and students by hosting cascading sessions.

This is **Amna's** first Access program, and she is connected to the Access site Islamia Collegiate, Hirjat Colony, located in Karachi-Pakistan. She has taught for seven years and teaches language, business, history and geography to high school students or higher. Amna always loved comics and used them as a teaching resource; due to her disappointing inability to draw, she wanted to explore comics in an entirely new dimension and acquire the skills to incorporate them in her routine teaching practice. She realized comics are a fantastic resource with multiple dimensions and possibilities. They are not only teaching tools for language but a source of cultural enrichment and personality building guide for students and teachers alike. She has already begun giving presentations and workshops to fellow teachers and has tried activities with her students.

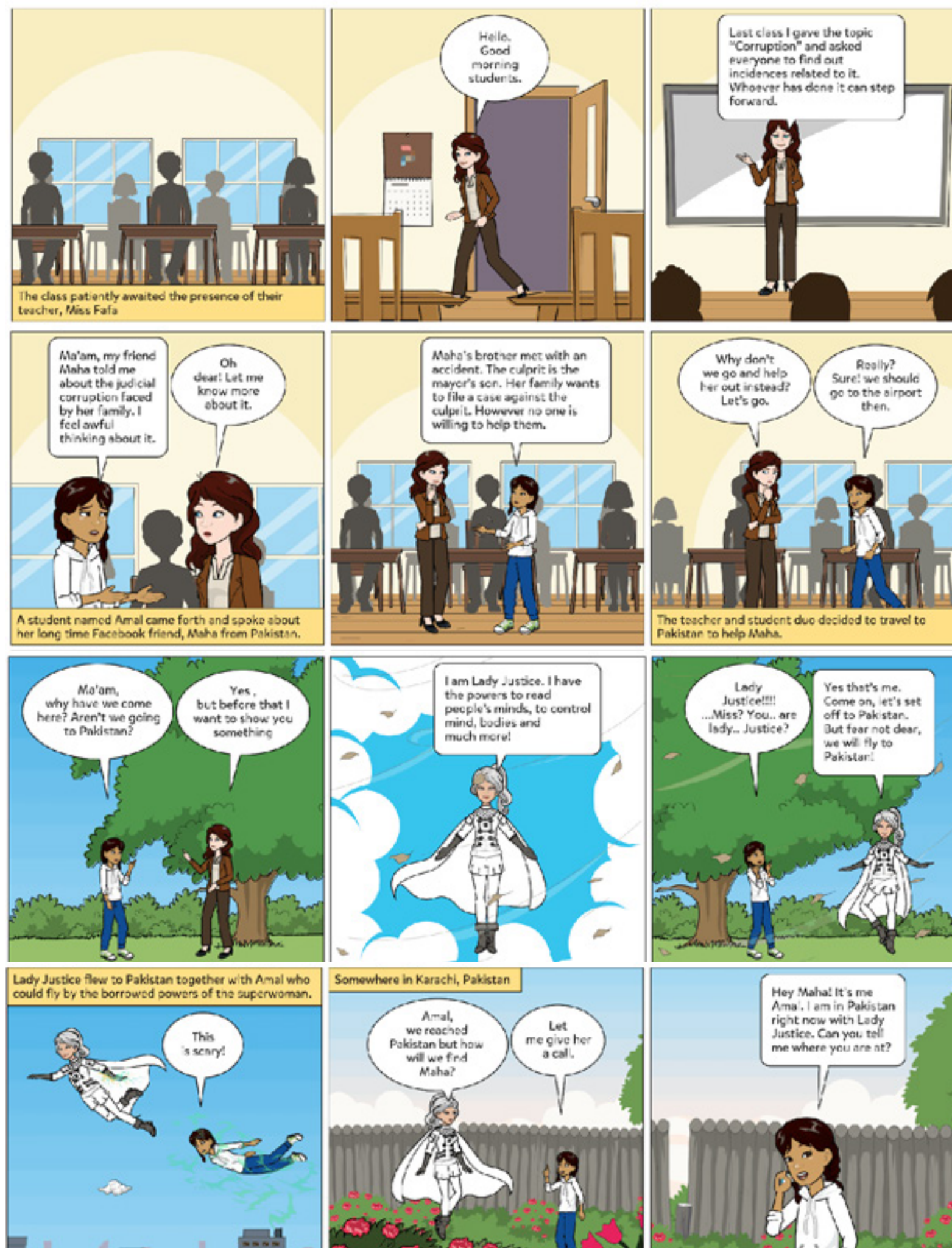
SOCIAL JUSTICE

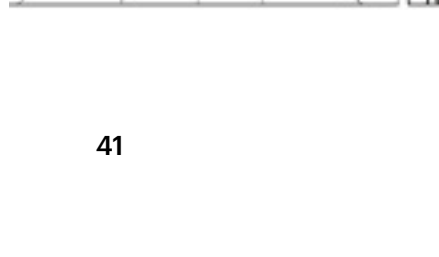
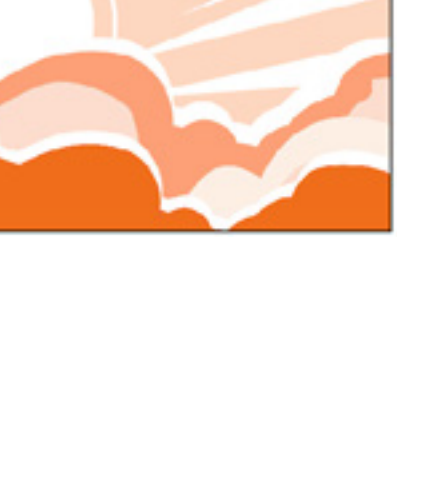
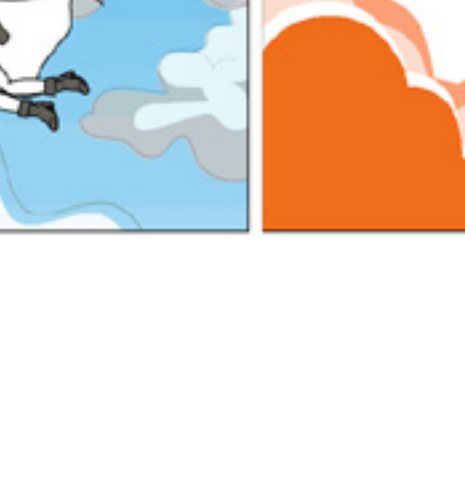
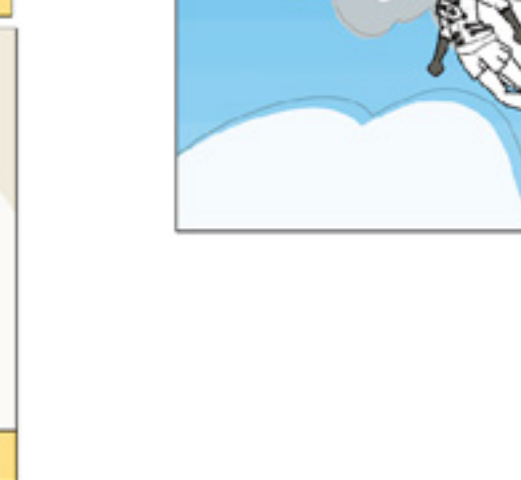
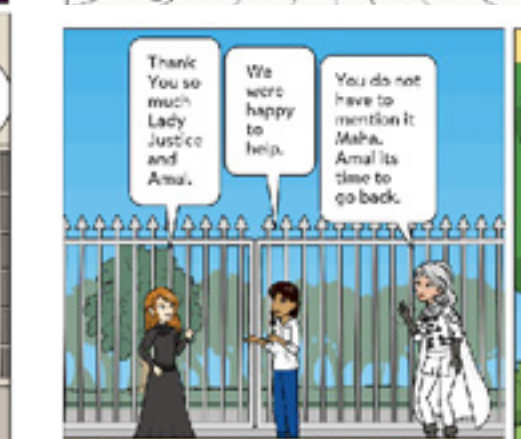
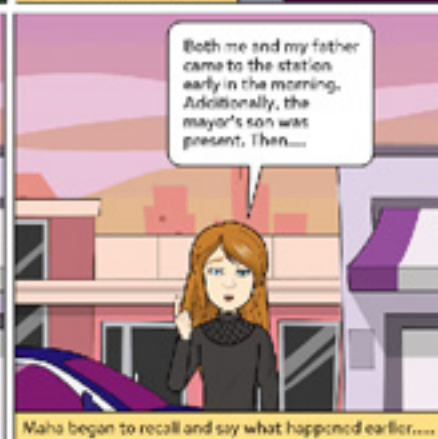
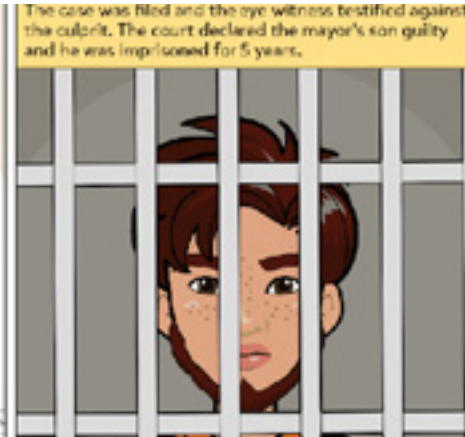
MOHIB ULLAH

BANGLADESH

Lady Justice has mind reading as well as hypnosis powers. Her superpowers are imbued with wind and electricity. Her alias is Lady Justice because she wants to help all those who seek justice.

She is from Bangladesh and is an educator by profession such that she can impart righteous knowledge to the upcoming generation. She wants to make the world a better place to live; one where a person will not face injustice due to his/her color, status, religion, or race.





AMNA KHAN

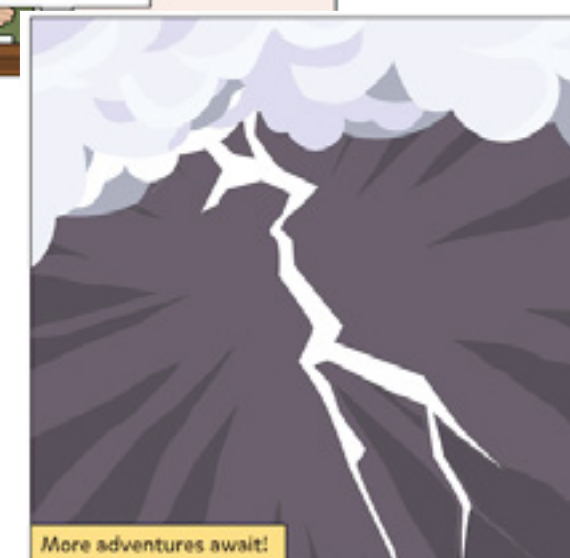
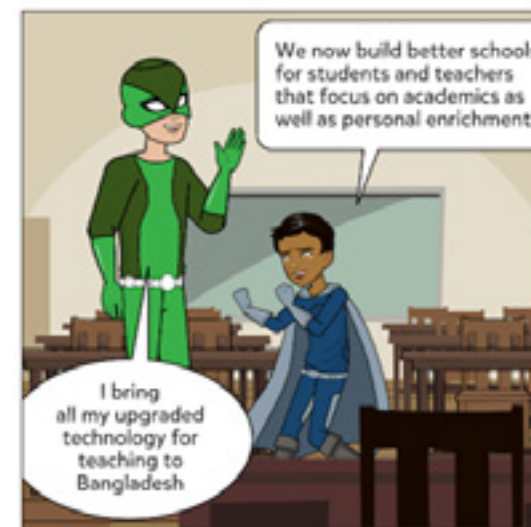
PAKISTAN

As a young boy Babur experienced life pretending to be from a middle class family background as his parents wanted him to “see the real world growing up” both dysfunctional as a couple but exceptionally genius and intelligent in sciences.

This allowed him to build on his social experiences and observations to understand his role in society as a responsible one, as he was amongst the few lucky ones blessed with all. He possesses super speed, super intelligence and flying as his natural gifts however; his vulnerabilities include fear of failure and death of a loved one.

Babur developed a variety of weapons, tools and equipment in his lab under the supervision of his parents to help combat the spread of social evils such as corruption, theft, suppression, exploitation and others.







IRYNA ROUBEL

BELARUS



MARIUM BEGUM

BANGLADESH



**Iryna and Marium
joined forces to
create comics about
education and
gender in
Bangladesh and
environmental
awareness in
Belarus.**

Iryna has been a part of Access for more than five years. At the moment she is a coordinator of the groups in Belarus located in Borisov and Baranovichi. She has been an English language teacher for more than ten years and works at a state school not far from the capital of Belarus. She joined the course because she loves challenges. Her favorite parts of the course were collaborating and exchanging ideas as well as applying the knowledge she had gained while creating her own comic stories. Iryna has already started sharing her new knowledge with her students and colleagues.

Marium has been teaching for more than six years as an Access Teacher at the Language Proficiency Center (LPC) Dhaka. She has been in a teaching career for more than eleven years. Besides Access, she works as a senior section teacher in an English Medium School, teaching multiple subjects in addition to English Language. She has been fascinated about comics after seeing the interest in her students while she used Trace Effects in her class. That is why she was enthralled by this course so that she could gather more knowledge about comics. She has already put her knowledge to work in planning lessons for students, presenting to colleagues, and using comics as a topic for the English practice sessions she teaches.

IRYNA ROUBEL

BELARUS

Lady Belarus helps the people all over the world to fight injustice and end sufferings.

In her ordinary life Lady Belarus is a young girl who lives in the village and helps her grandparents. She doesn't have parents because they were superheroes who died fighting for the lives of the people in different parts of the world.

Lady Belarus may seem delicate and sensitive but she has great inner strength. She has a range of superpowers such as traveling through time and space and unbelievable physical abilities. The only vulnerability she has is her family. When she feels the suffering of her nearest and dearest, she becomes weak.

Her superhero costume includes white and red colors. White means freedom and peace, red has two meanings: the blood of those who died fighting injustice and the color of the victory.

Lady Belarus is brave and courageous. She is not afraid to risk her life to make people happy and free.





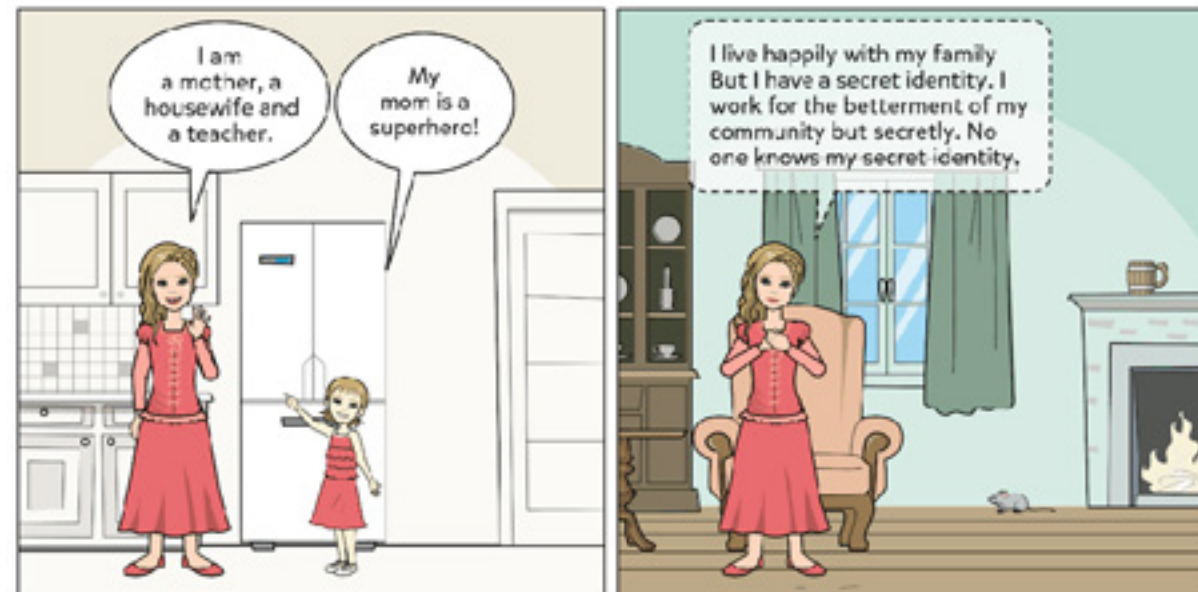
MARIUM BEGUM

BANGLADESH

Hope Lady's name represents her ethics and work because she brings hope by reducing the injustice from the earth. She haunts unlawful people.

For everyone else she is an ordinary housewife but secretly she solves the problems on this Earth. She protects Mother Nature from the destruction, she fights against injustice and brings hope. She has the power of teleportation, tremendous strength and energy and can also be invisible. By teleportation, she can easily reach the places she is needed. She can move huge things like mountains with her energy.

Hope Lady wears a red and violet colored superhero costume, which are the colors of hope, and a mask so that nobody can recognize her.



Hope lady and Lady Belarus are having conversation about the situation of their country.



Hope Lady is vanishing the litter from everywhere.



Hope Lady is converting the harmful chemical of the industrial smoke.

Planting the trees again.



Clean the water of lakes and rivers and saved the life of animals.



Hope Lady is also placing garbages everywhere, so that people can throw the litters on these garbages.



This is not enough, we need to educate the people about the bad effect of littering in wrong places. So that your country will remain clean forever.

Yes, you are right!



Exactly!

See they are happy to have clean environment. Let's tell them how we can make our environment clean and safe to live.



We will definitely take care of our environment!

Hello everyone, we can have a clean and safe environment forever. If we become careful about littering.

Yes!



It is our duty to take care of our Mother Nature.

Otherwise, the world will no longer be the safer place to live and mother nature will take revenge. We have to face the consequences what we are doing. Global warming is increasing.



Any time for the betterment of the human being, animals and Mother Earth. This is my hobby.

Thank you so much Hopelady! You saved our environment, you saved the animals, people and our Mother Nature.



Got to go now! My family must be waiting. Stay happy and stay safe.

We will miss you Hopelady! Good bye and stay safe!



Finally! I am home. I hope they are not worried. They must not know my secret job!



I am serving it right away!

Mom! I am hungry!



This is me Hopelady. I work for my earth and the whole mankind.



Now you know my secret. Shhh! don't tell anybody!



**YULIA
USOLTSEVA**
RUSSIA



**INOSHA
WICKRAMA**
SRI LANKA

Yulia and Inosha worked together to create stories about each other's countries. Yulia's superhero tackled child trafficking in Sri Lanka, and Inosha's superhero addressed gerontology in Russia.

Yulia is in her second year with Access and is at the Access site in Tyumen, Russia. She has been teaching English for thirteen years, working with primary and secondary school students and adults. She discovered MOOCs and online courses two years ago and since then has tried to participate in at least two a year. She loves broadening her horizons. Every time she came across comic strips in course books or online, they piqued her interest and decided she needed to study this topic more closely. She has learned that one can teach any topic through comics. It is entertaining as well as educational and teenagers love it. Comics not only present some ideas, even difficult topics, they can also allow students to come up with solutions themselves.

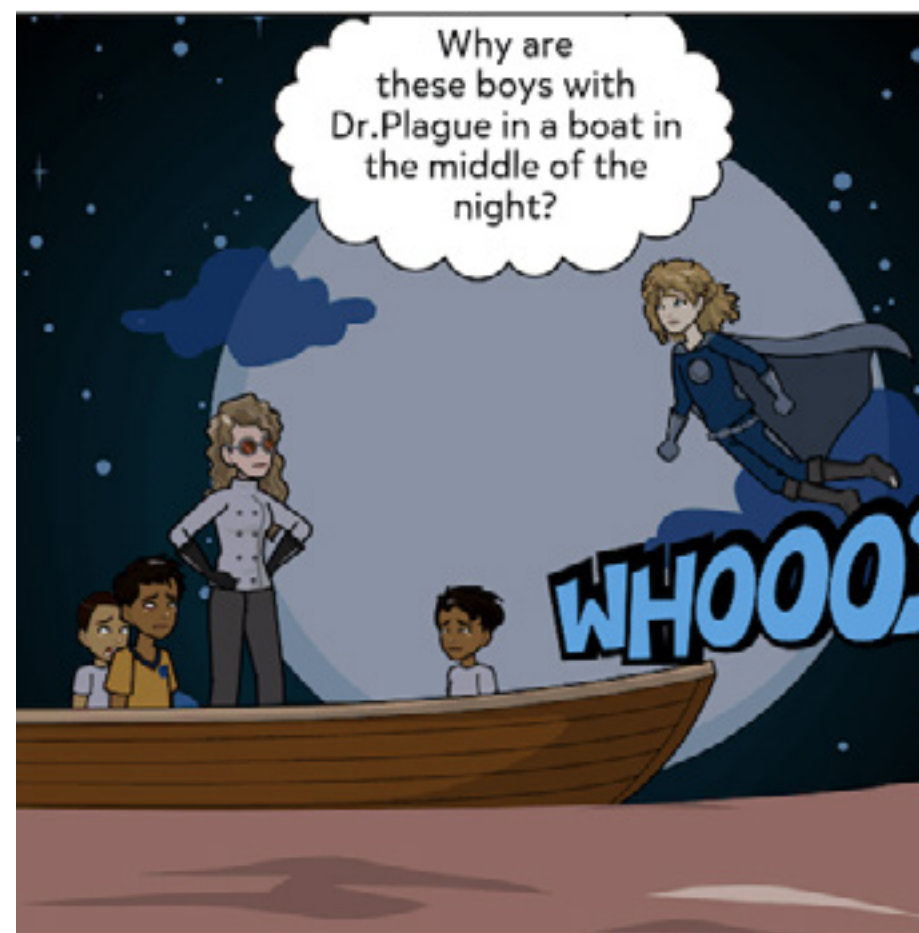
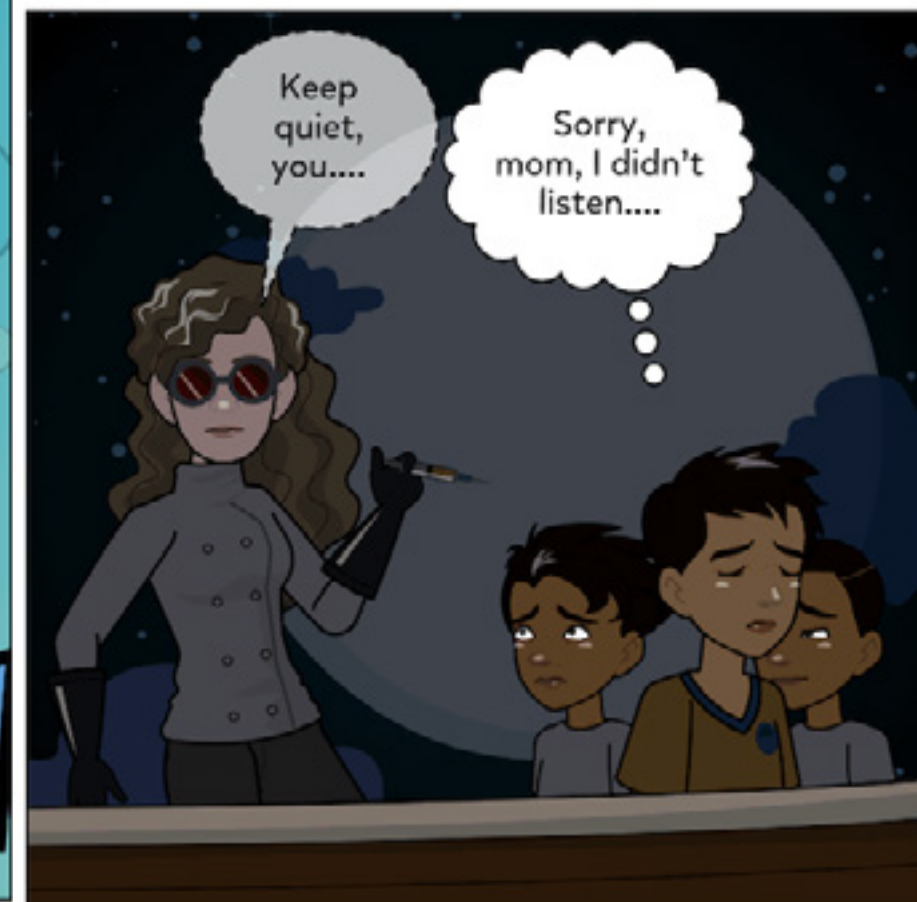
Inosha has been an Access teacher for almost six years and is with the Access site at Kandy, Sri Lanka. She has been a teacher for over fifteen years, working mainly with adult and university students. She teaches computer science and math and also helps students prepare for standardized tests. In addition, she trains pre-service teachers in Educational Technology. A reader, writer, traveler, and animal lover, Inosha is also a comics fan and was curious to see how that would translate into classroom teaching. From the program, She received lesson plans, ideas, and tech tools, but most importantly, she gained many ideas about how to make comics relevant and significant to each of her students.

CHILD TRAFFICKING

YULIA USOLTSEVA

RUSSIA

Sandy Surfer will be the one saving the ocean and its creatures from people's bad influence, greed and destruction.





ACCESS TO EDUCATION

INOSHA WICKRAMA

SRI LANKA

Dhara is a veterinarian by training and works as a field Vet at a National park which is mostly a forest in a remote location (in Sri Lanka) as a field vet.

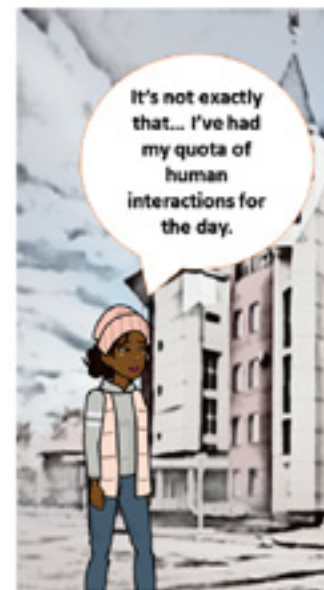
She is the on call doctor for animals that have gotten injured, mostly due to human activities, especially poachers. (shooting, snares, traps, explosive attacks and deforestation.

Her powers are of magical origin, usually a gift ancient yogi and masters of meditation achieve after years of practice when their minds have reached a plane of complete peace. These powers, according to the ancient scripts, is said to be limitless, with the bearer of such power being almost invincible. It allows for them to travel long distances easily, fly when needed, heal and protect others, be strong and fast and almost omnipotent in times of need.

Her costume is a combination of her powers and practicality. It keeps her anonymous, while allowing her to instill fear in the minds of those who see her. The flames in the background are from the Sri Lankan traditional mask.



Tyumen, Russia. My friends and I came for a conference At the Tyumen University.



I am Dhara, Veterinarian by profession and an introvert by choice.
Having powers doesn't help!

It seems I am also bad with directions. In a strange town, all by myself...





My powers have a mind of their own. They appear when I least expect it.



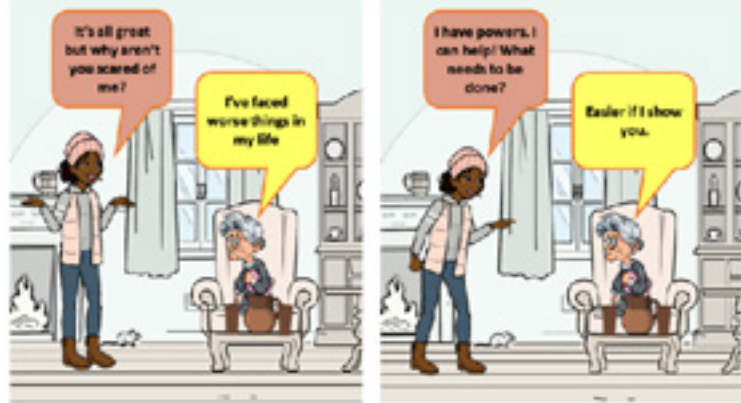
Good deed of the day. Saved an old lady.

Now, I'll have to kill her before she sees my face or something...

There is a reason I work with animals; they don't expect me to sound intelligent.

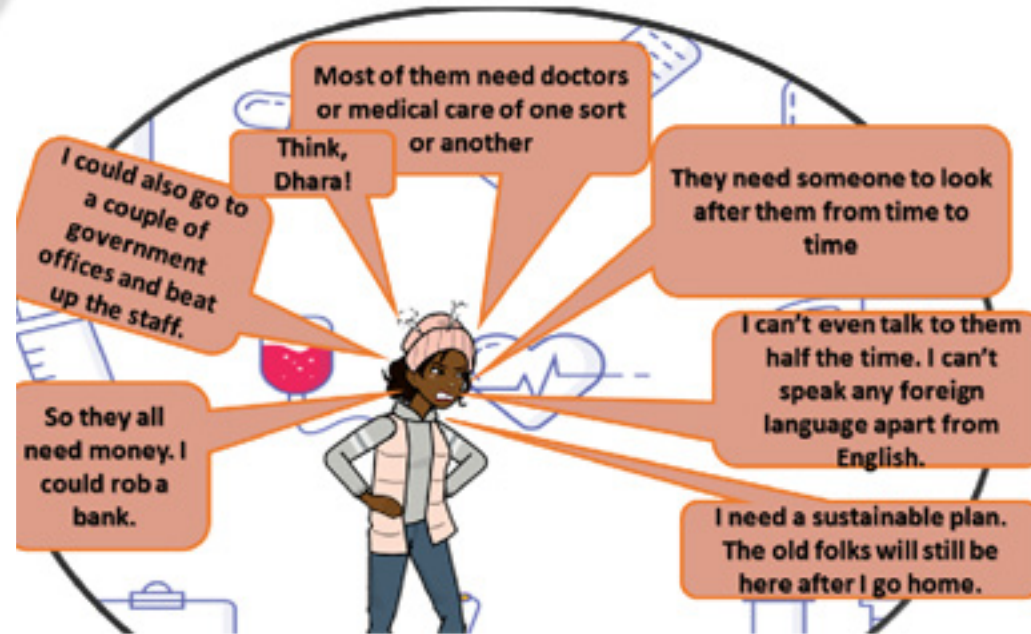
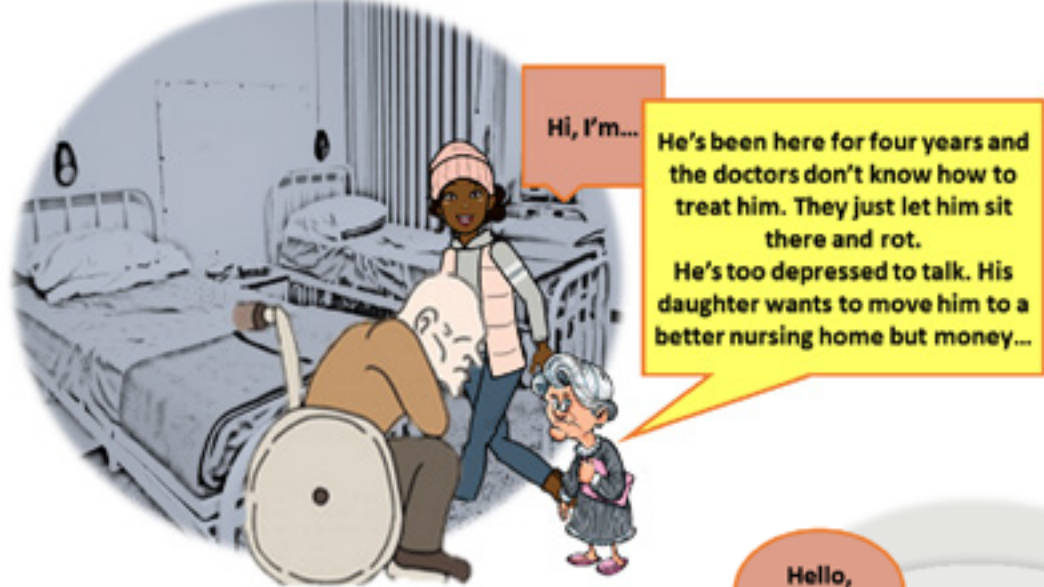


She didn't go screaming and running when she saw me, so it seemed like a small thing to offer her some help.



It seemed unlikely that she wants me to beat up someone.

I prepared to put my best foot forward and smile and not be me for a short while.





It wasn't exactly a problem I could solve through raw power.

By next morning, it was obvious I couldn't do this alone.



I just couldn't let it go. Back to the first person we visited.

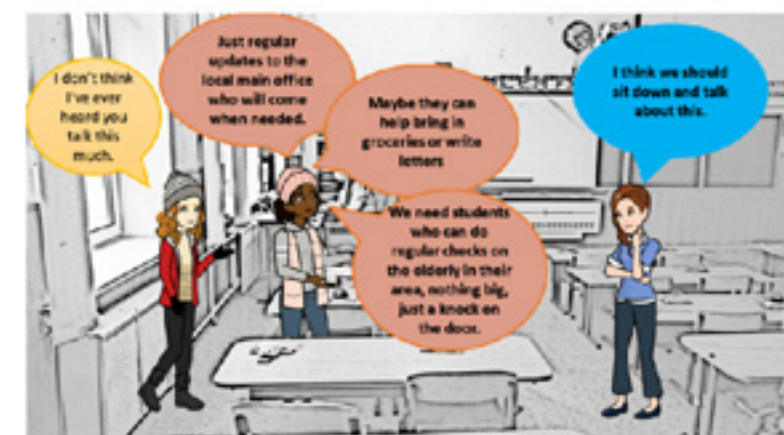


And suddenly, the final piece in the jigsaw fell into place.



I think I need a medal for speaking to this many people in one day!

The Access classroom was in a private school, and the teacher was very easy to talk to.



This was the opportunity I was waiting for. I wasn't about to give up that easily.



It took us a couple of hours to hash out the details but we eventually got there.



With that settled, there was only one more thing to do.

There was one more bit of good news at the airport.



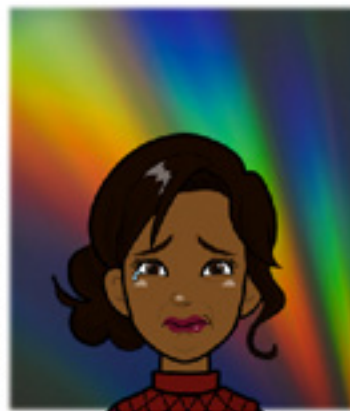
And for a change, my powers corporate with me!



The End
-- for now



Then there was only to say goodbye to my new friend.



Back home to complications, hostile parents and judgemental idiots.



**TATIANA
IBRAGHIMOVA**

BELARUS



**LAURIEN
IKUZWE**

RWANDA



Tatiana has been teaching Access students for two and a half years with the group Access Program Opportunities for Everybody. She has taught ESL secondary school students for about fourteen years. She joined the AEC ComicsVX Program because she is interested in comics and would like to implement them into her lessons. Her greatest takeaway is learning about the Pixton app and taking part in group discussions. She plans on making a PowerPoint presentation about teaching comics and presenting it before her colleagues.

Laurien has been teaching with Access for four years at the Nyanza site, located in Groupe Scolaire Mater Dei in Nyanza District, Southern Province, Rwanda. Outside of Access, he has been teaching General English for eight years and also leads a local educational non-profit organization. He decided to join the AEC ComicsVX program because he was excited about the previous ATCI four-week experience and he wanted to rekindle his inner drawing gift. He was also fascinated to learn how to teach English language with comics and integrating comics in PBI as well. Laurien's greatest take-away is the idea of integrating superheroes in the EFL classroom. He realized that teaching superheroes in the EFL classrooms helps in shaping students' identity to becoming the best version of themselves through discovering which powers they have for good.

- **Tatiana and Laurien worked together to create solutions using their superhero's powers. Tatiana wrote about a need for educational resources in Rwanda, while Laurien wrote about preserving national language and culture in Belarus for their comic book stories.**

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

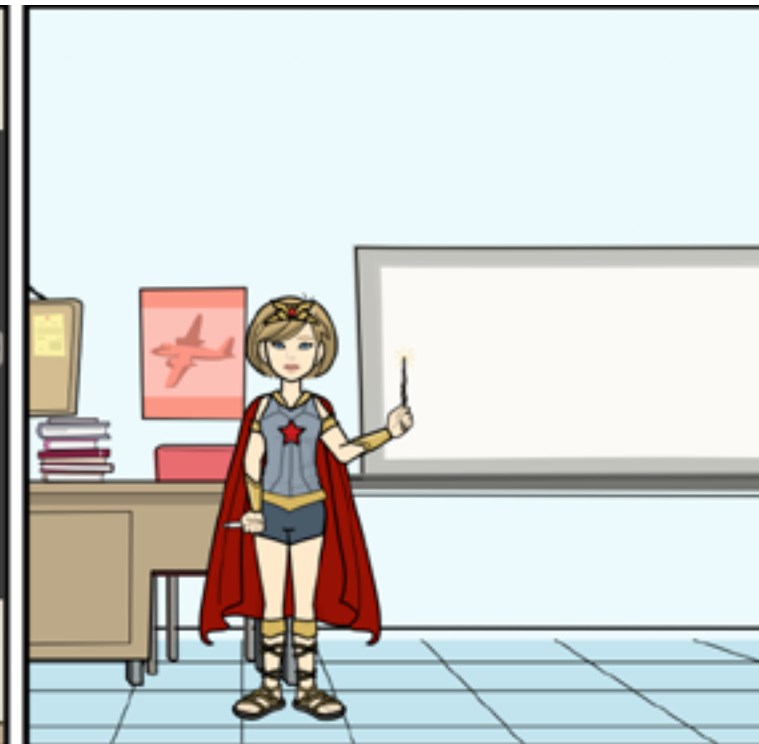
TATIANA IBRAGHIMOVA

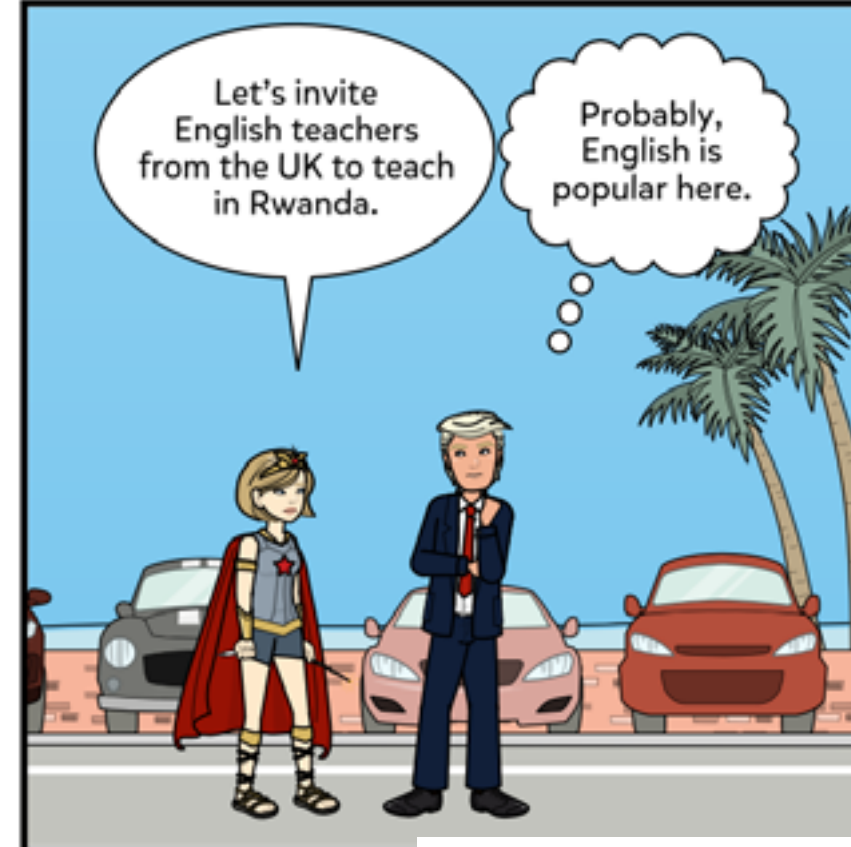
BELARUS

Mrs. Superwoman is a strong determined national hero of all Belarusians, able to solve the political conflict in our country and help Belarusians people gain freedom and Independence.

She is the Angel of Hope, a charming sporty educated young woman raised in a traditional family with the knowledge of five foreign languages. She travels all around the country and makes speeches in front of the Belarusian people.

Mrs. Superwoman is strong-willed, determined, confident of herself, very powerful. She is capable of making our ex-leader leave his post and stop controlling our people. We long for freedom, peace, justice, good economy in our country. She is dressed in a red and white colored dress and red boots, the colors of our independent national flag of Belarus.



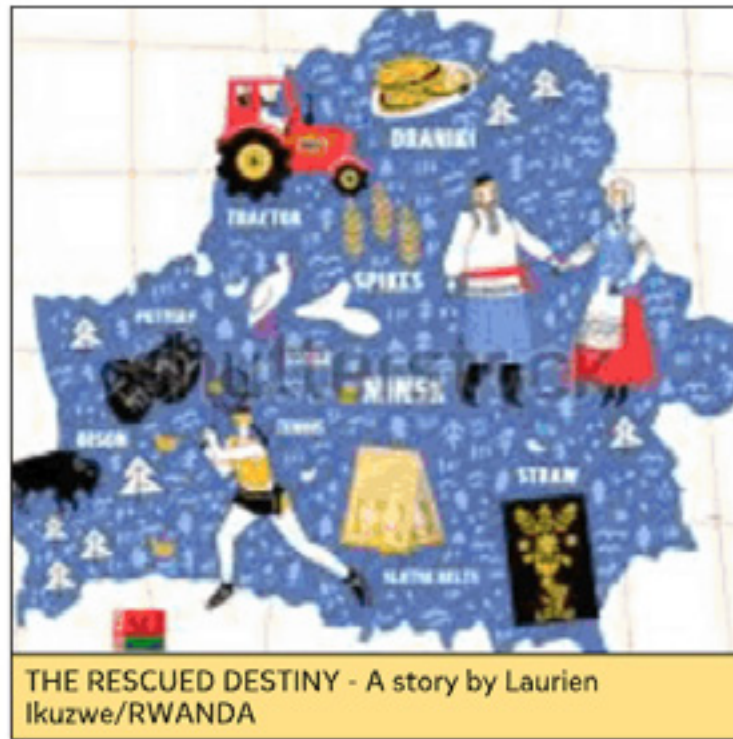


ACCESS TO EDUCATION

RWANDA

I have created my superhero character based on the story of a female soldier-doctor who saved lives of people in the 1994 genocide against Tutsi in Rwanda. She was among a 600 soldier troop that rescued thousands of people in Kigali. Her acts of heroism are praised in the movie "The 600: The Soldiers' Story."

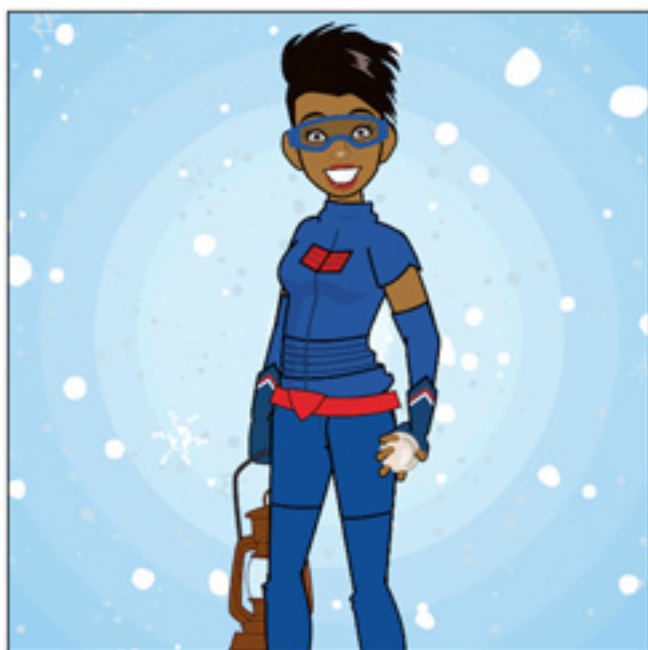
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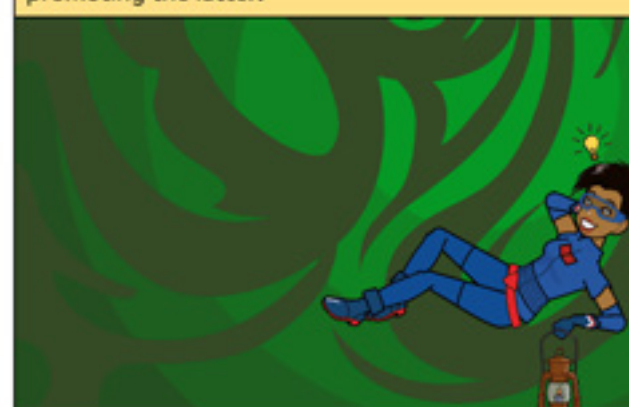
I named her under the pseudonym, GANZA. She has a magic Persuasion Lamp and her magic Ice-Ball that help her to instantly amass any whole country's history and culture. She might use them to overcome the problems by persuading people to collaborate and find solutions. She uses these soft powers with a high alertness and intelligence that can't be broken by evil because she loves peace and security.

My Ganza wears blue which symbolizes peace, stability, wisdom and reliability. She also wears a red symbol in her chest and a red belt around her waist which symbolize passion, fearlessness and force.

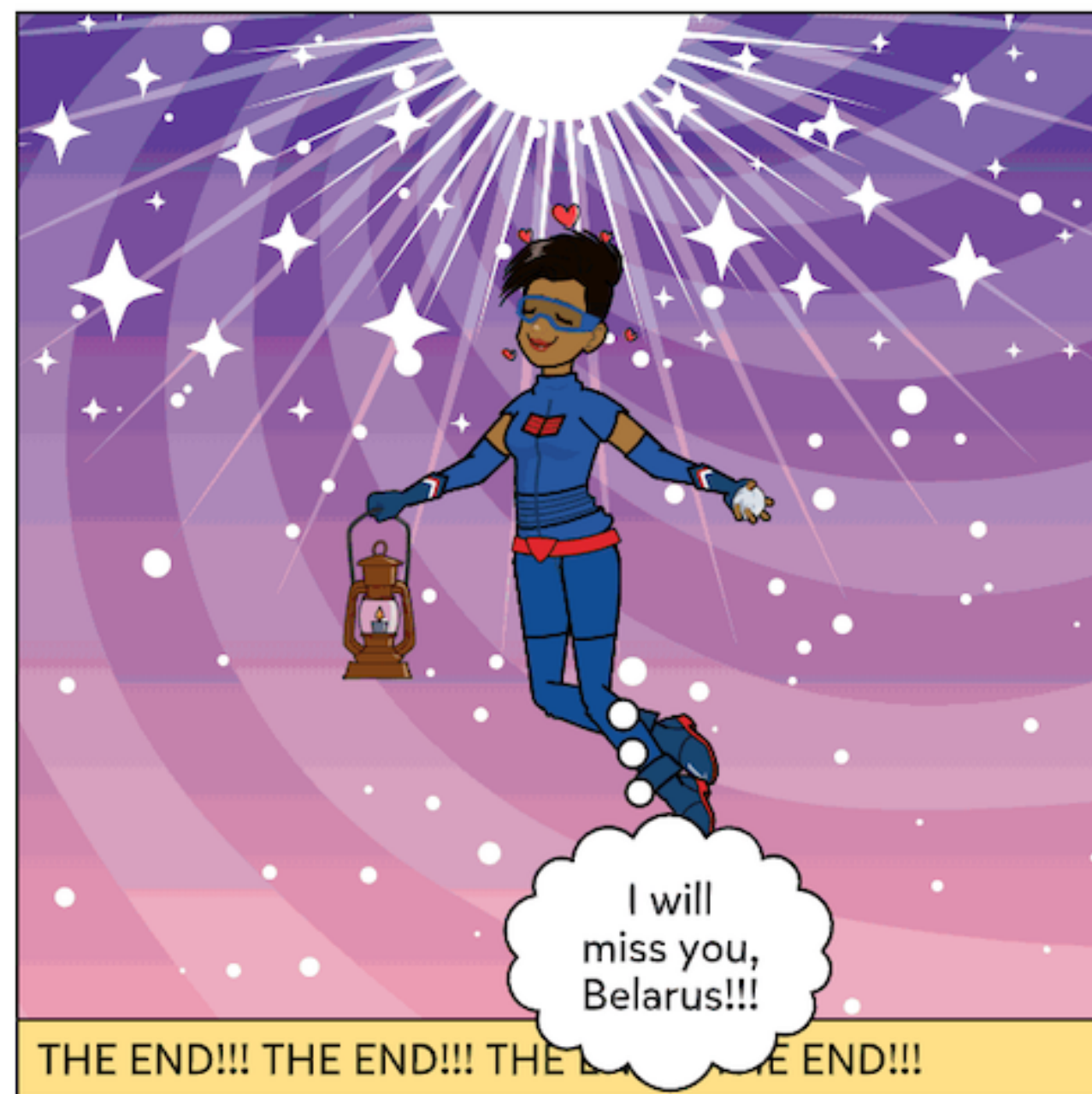
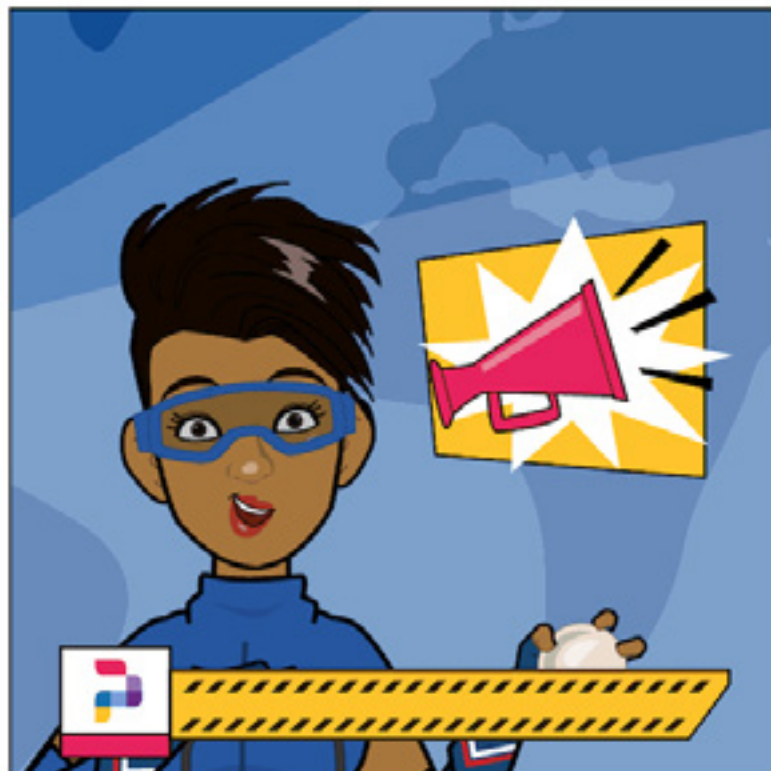
In real life, Ganza is now a doctor somewhere in Kigali and treats people on an everyday basis.



After her winning speech in the National Leadership Dialogue (NLD), Ganza thought how she can solve the problem with her magic Persuasion Lamp and her magic Ice-Ball that helped her to amass instantly any whole country history, culture and language riches of which she might get up to. She finds it a good idea to initiate culture and language based programs promoting the latter.



Superhero Ganza flew throughout Belarus cities and countries partnering with teachers teaching Belarus language and great elements in the culture. She led many culture-based contests in schools and colleges. She organized fun Belarusian language TV and Radio shows and did it consistently in some months.





SYED NAZRUL ASHAN

BANGLADESH



BERNARDO SILVA

BRAZIL



- For their comics, Syed wrote about climate change in Brazil, and Bernardo wrote about building schools in Bangladesh.

Syed has been with the Access program since 2004 at the Language Proficiency Center located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He started his teaching career in 1997 and teaches English Language as well as Geography, Environment, and Bangladesh Studies. He applied to join the AEC Comics VX program because he was enthralled by the course name. He reads many comics, and he thanks Ms. Raihana, the program director at the American Center, for convincing him that he was capable of doing the course. Everything fascinated him, but when pressed, he admits the desire to make a superhero was the best part. He plans to share his learning with his colleagues by organizing a presentation, and with his students, by starting with basic ideas, then proceeding to create comics with their own beliefs.

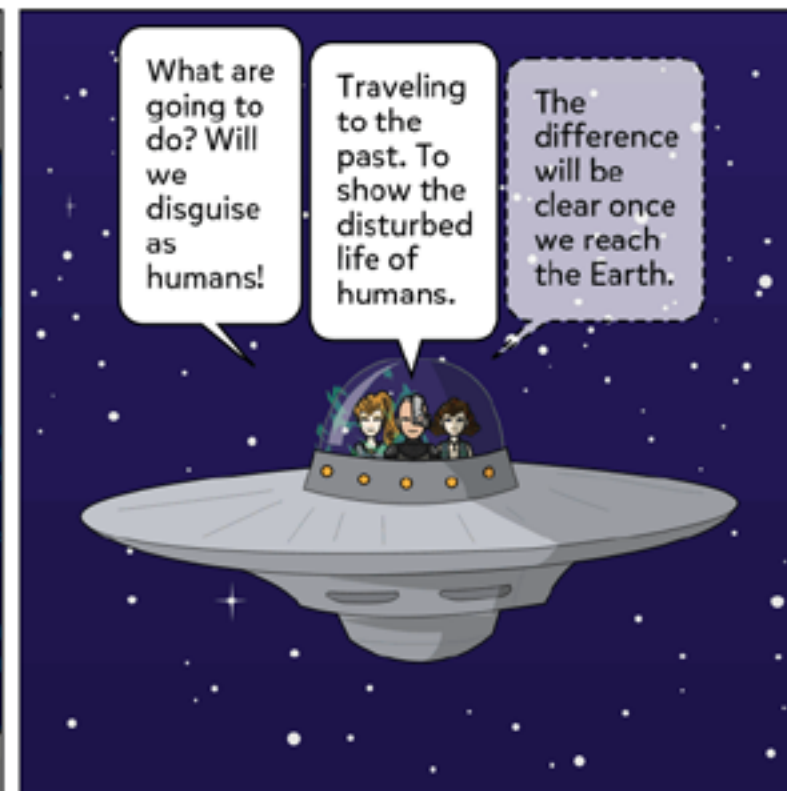
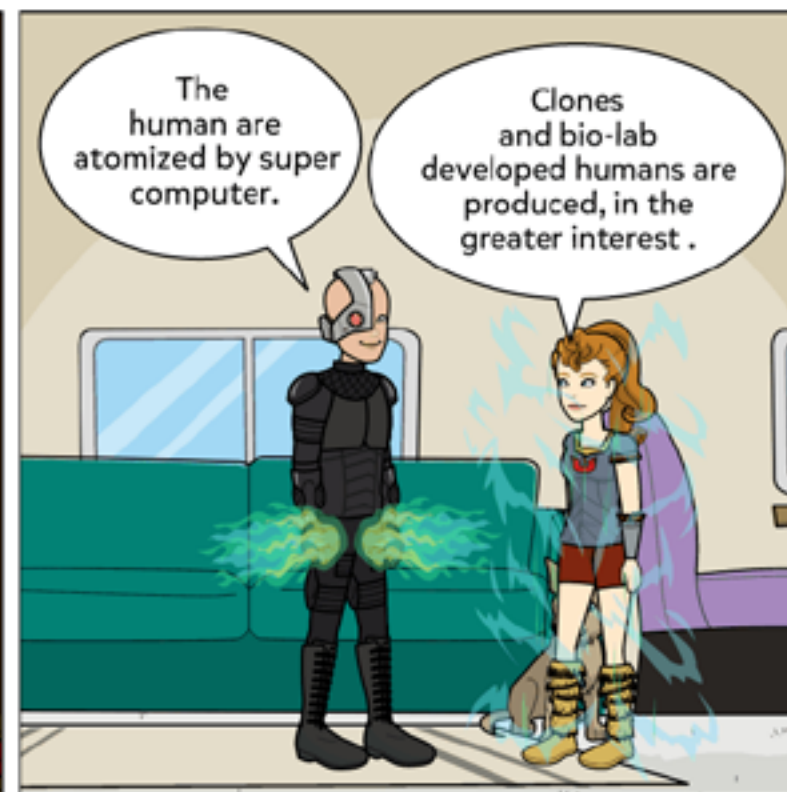
Bernardo has been teaching Access groups since 2010 with the English Access Micro-Scholarship at ABA (American Space) in Recife, Brazil. He has been teaching ESL, EFL, and Social Studies for twenty-two years. Before teaching, he was an airplane mechanic and also has a career as a photographer. As a constant learner, he found the course a great opportunity to learn techniques that will improve his teaching skills. Stories matter and comics are an excellent way to tell them. With students, he plans to provide them with activities involving the techniques taught and learned in the course. With teachers, he will prepare workshops to share what was taught in the course.

SYED NAZRUL
ASHAN

BANGLADESH

My Superhero is called Nero. He is powerful and strong. He comes from the planet Krypton. His special powers are, he can read the minds of any person, enter the mind and can change the attitude and thinking. Definitely his powers for only well and change the evil into wise person. The absence of sunlight is a problem to him. Generally he has casual uniform. He changes his attire when he fights for the good. It is a special dress to protect him for all attacks. Basically he is an educator, teaches pupils in school. His intuition is very sharp. His reflex power is excellent and his far sighted.





BUILDING SCHOOLS

BERNARDO SILVA

BRAZIL

My character is Manguê Boy. (Manguê is mangrove in Portuguese.) He uses his power to build decent housing for those who live in places with poor sanitation.

He was born in Recife to a family that live in a poor neighborhood. They often ate crabs from the mangrove next to their home and this inspired his costume. The crabs represent resistance and readiness to fight for survival in the midst of so much destruction.

Every night he secretly uses his “building tornado” to flip the houses of his community, providing dignity to their inhabitants.

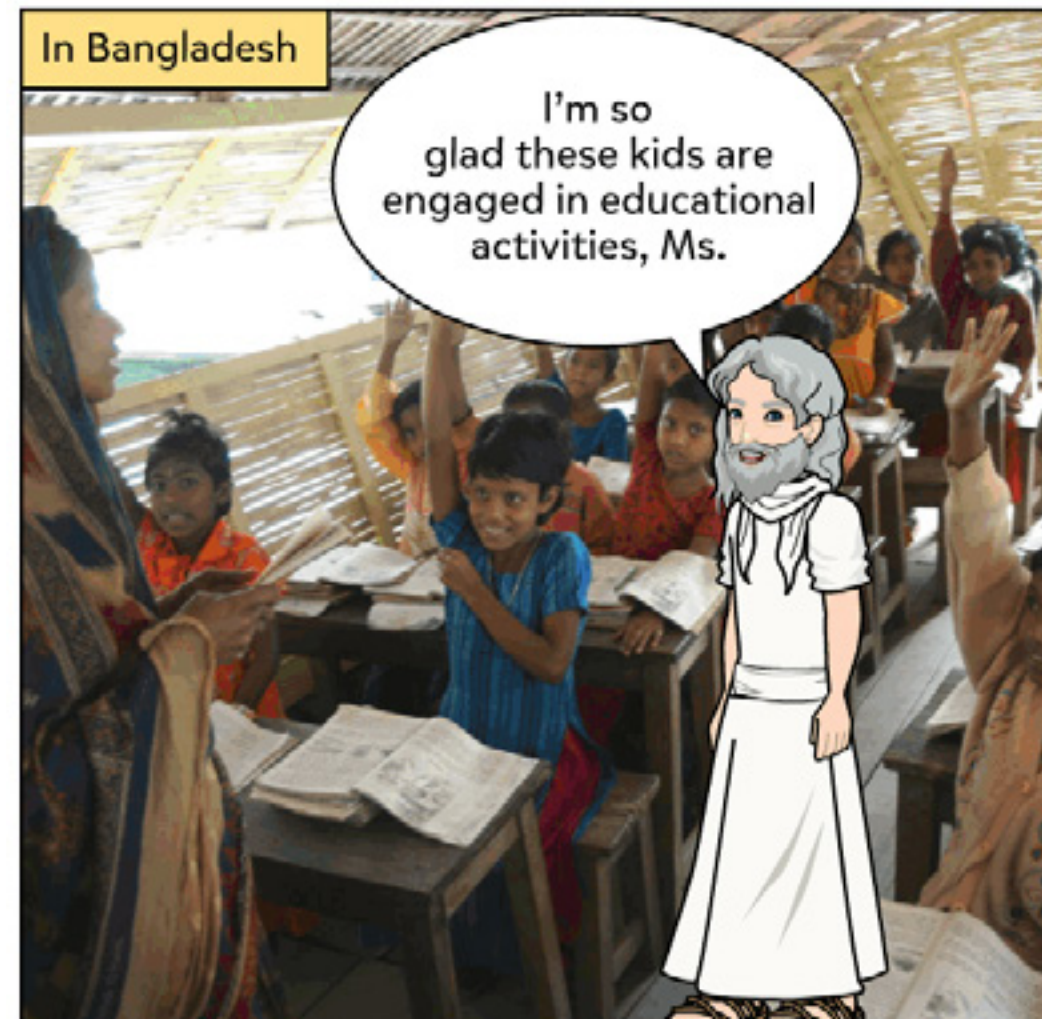
Manguê Boy’s vulnerability is the destruction of the mangrove in the city. Every time a part of the mangrove is destroyed, he loses part of his power.

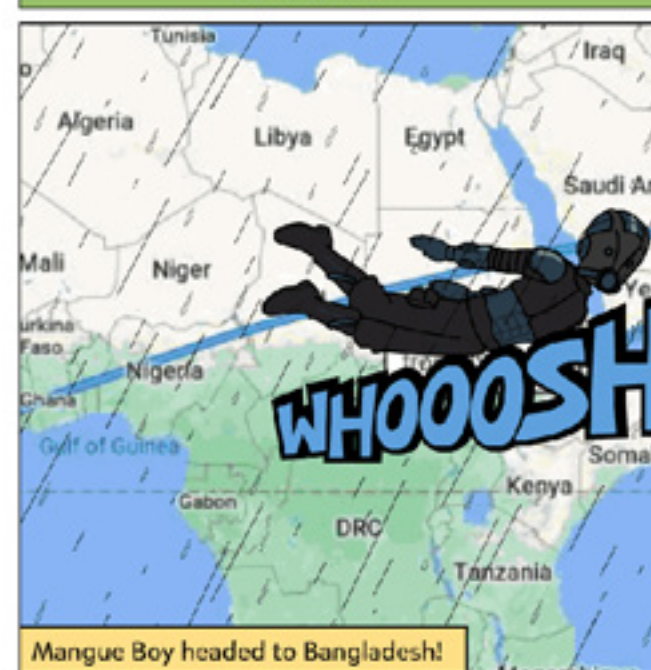
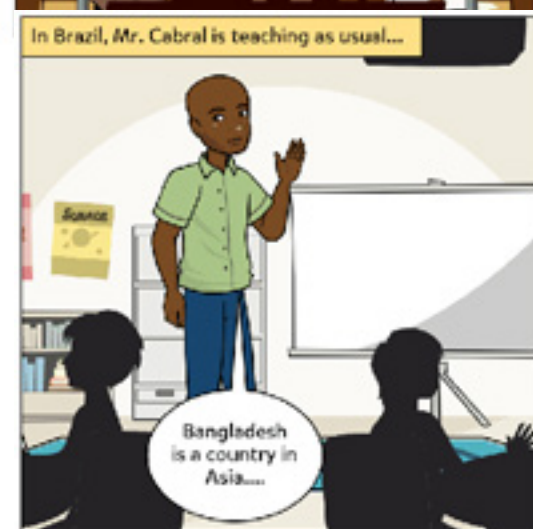


OASIS: The story of a school

In Bangladesh

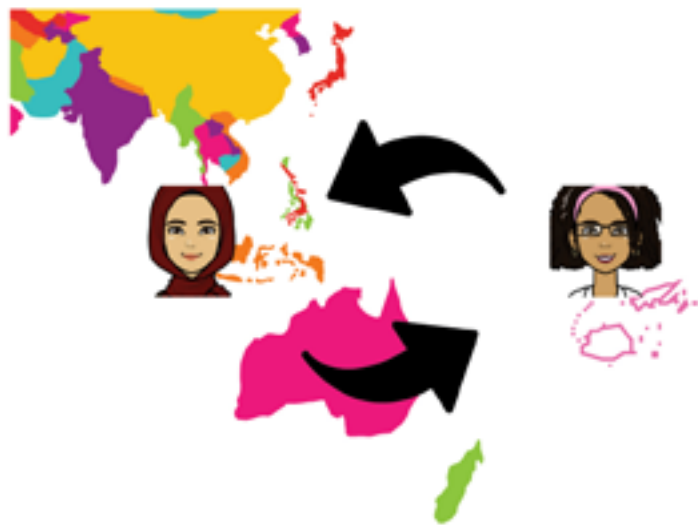
I'm so glad these kids are engaged in educational activities, Ms.





Using his building tornado, Mangué Boy flipped the school building.





**NINING
SURYANI**
INDONESIA



**RUCI
TAKUNA**
FIJI



From one island nation to the other, Ruci and Nining used their superheroes to help solve problems in each others' countries. Nining wrote her comic about violence against women in Fiji, and Ruci wrote about flooding in Indonesia.

Nining has been teaching in Access since 2018 and volunteering since 2015 at Bima site in Bima Town, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. Nining joined the summer Access Teachers Comics Institute and was curious to know more about comics and what tools would work better to create comics. That's why she was thrilled to participate in this program after being nominated. Nining has enjoyed collaborating with other teachers, and she has practiced using comics in the classroom. Her students even created their own stories using doodles. She hopes to share what she has learned in cascading sessions with fellow teachers.

Ni sa bula vinaka. This is **Ruci's** first year of being an Access Teacher sponsored by the U.S. Embassy to Fiji and administered by Vision Fiji, known as EAMP Fiji Campus. Ruci has been teaching English Language and Literature as well as Social Science for twenty-three years. She founded the Alabaster 12 Foundation, a charitable organization that donates books to underprivileged school libraries around Fiji and conducts reading classes to struggling learners in schools. She joined this comics program because she loves art and creativity. She loves to try new things, and teaching comics is one of those. Her biggest takeaway is the ability to teach English in a new way through comics. Ruci plans to present a proposal to the Ministry of Education in the Republic of Fiji to implement Comics Teaching into the existing curriculum. Through the US Embassy to Fiji, she intends to train interested students in comics with the hope of publishing their own work as school resources.

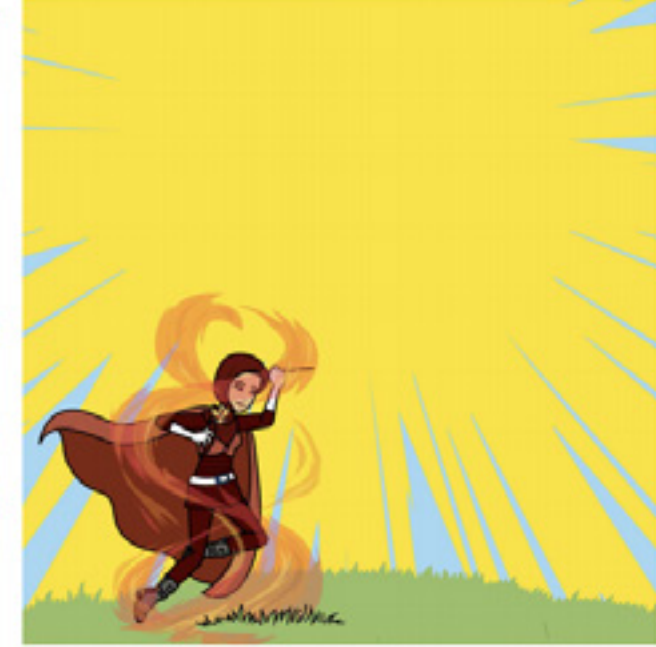
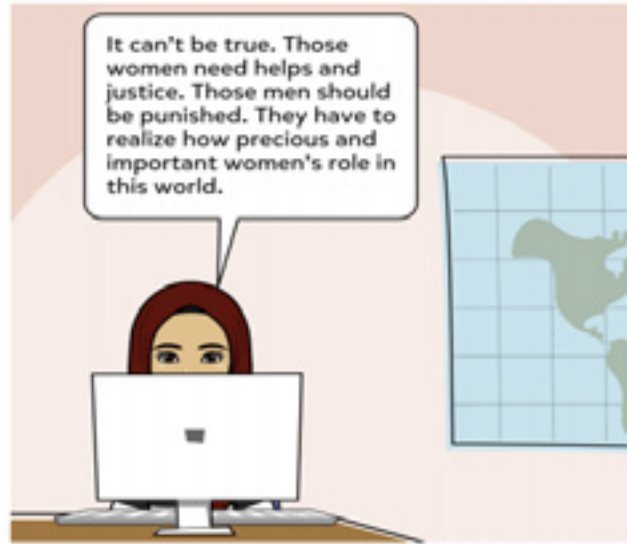
HUMAN RIGHTS

NINING SURYANI

INDONESIA

The name of my superhero is Garuda Lady. She helps people who are in danger and fight for human's rights. She gets the power from the magic Garuda Badge she found in the palace where she leaves. She could see what happen in the future through the magic Garuda Badge she put on her chest and change herself to be Garuda Lady who will be a hero for all people. She uses the magic stick on her hand to help people in danger. She will be weak when she fights without her Garuda Badge. She wears the dominant red color tight cloth with the cape, hijab and white belt. The colors represent the national flag. Garuda Lady is a university student who studies history.





Using super speed plane, Garuda Lady flies from Indonesia to Fiji.

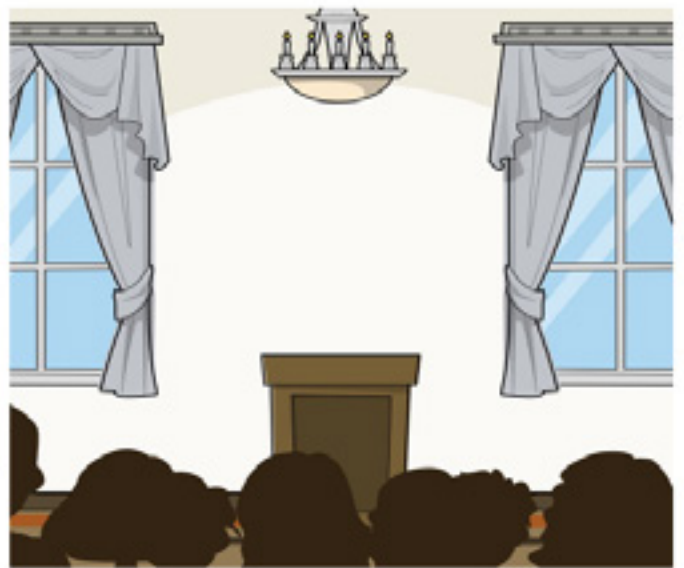
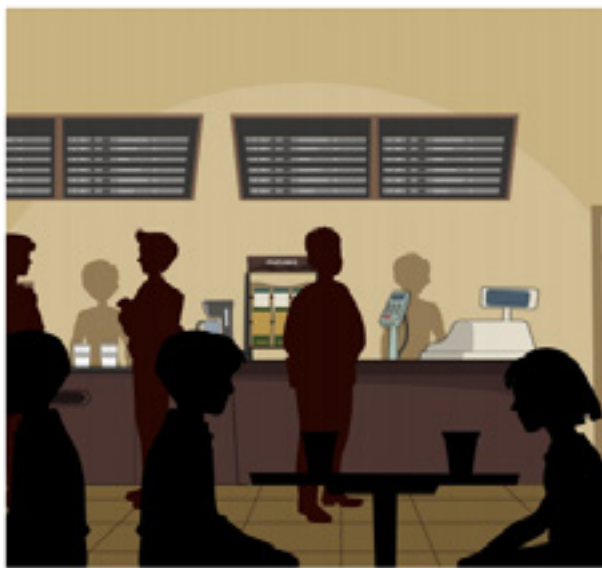
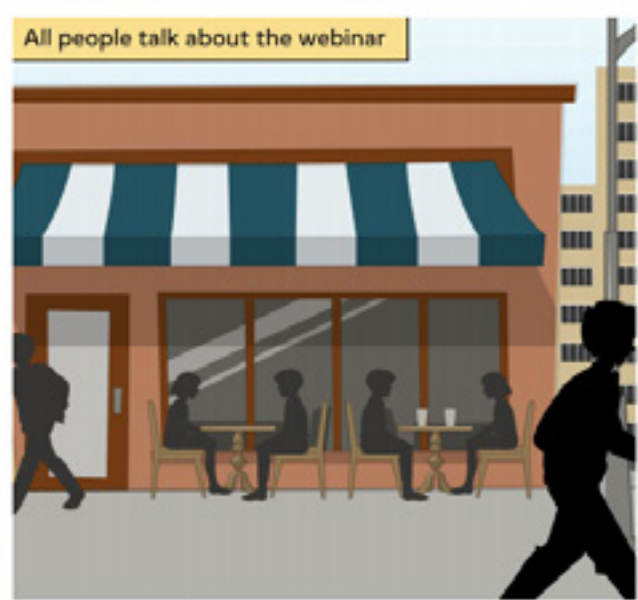
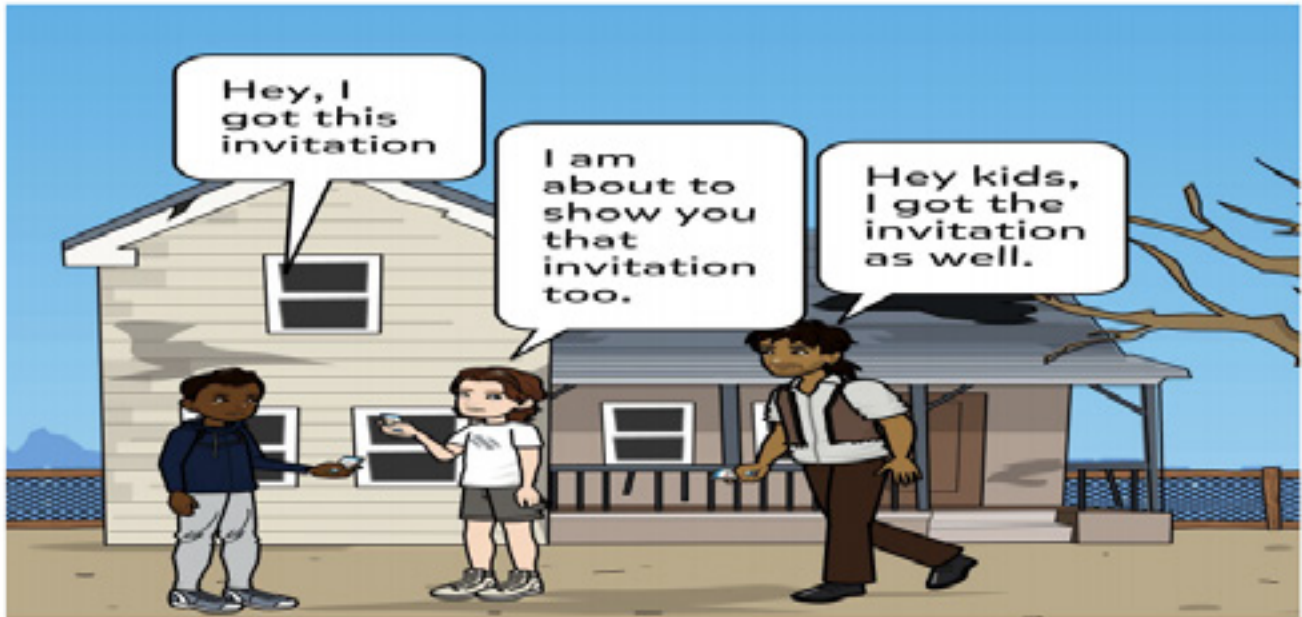


Somewhere in Fiji in a house there's a sound of a chair thrown and someone cries asking for help



Help me, someone please help me.. stop beating me, I'm your wife.





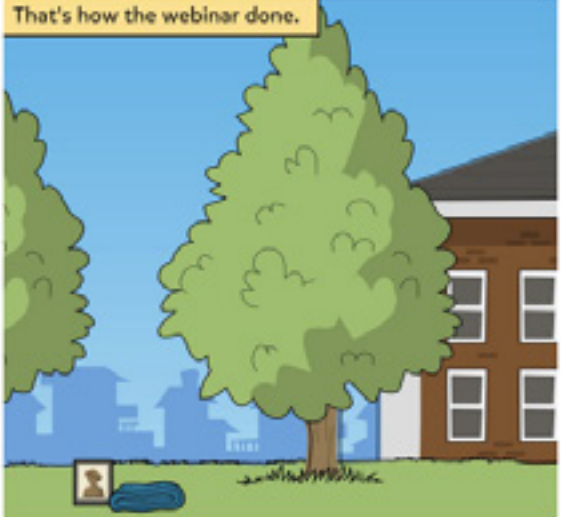
The day is coming to held the webinar and influence people to protect woman's right in Fiji.



Politicians, polices, doctors, teachers, students, and others attend the webinar.



All people join the webinar





Since then all parties in the society educate as many people as possible to be aware of domestic violence.



They will be proceeded in court and get the appropriate sentence based on the law.



More perpetrators are arrested.



The number of domestic violence has decreased and more couples leave happily with their children.





CLIMATE CHANGE

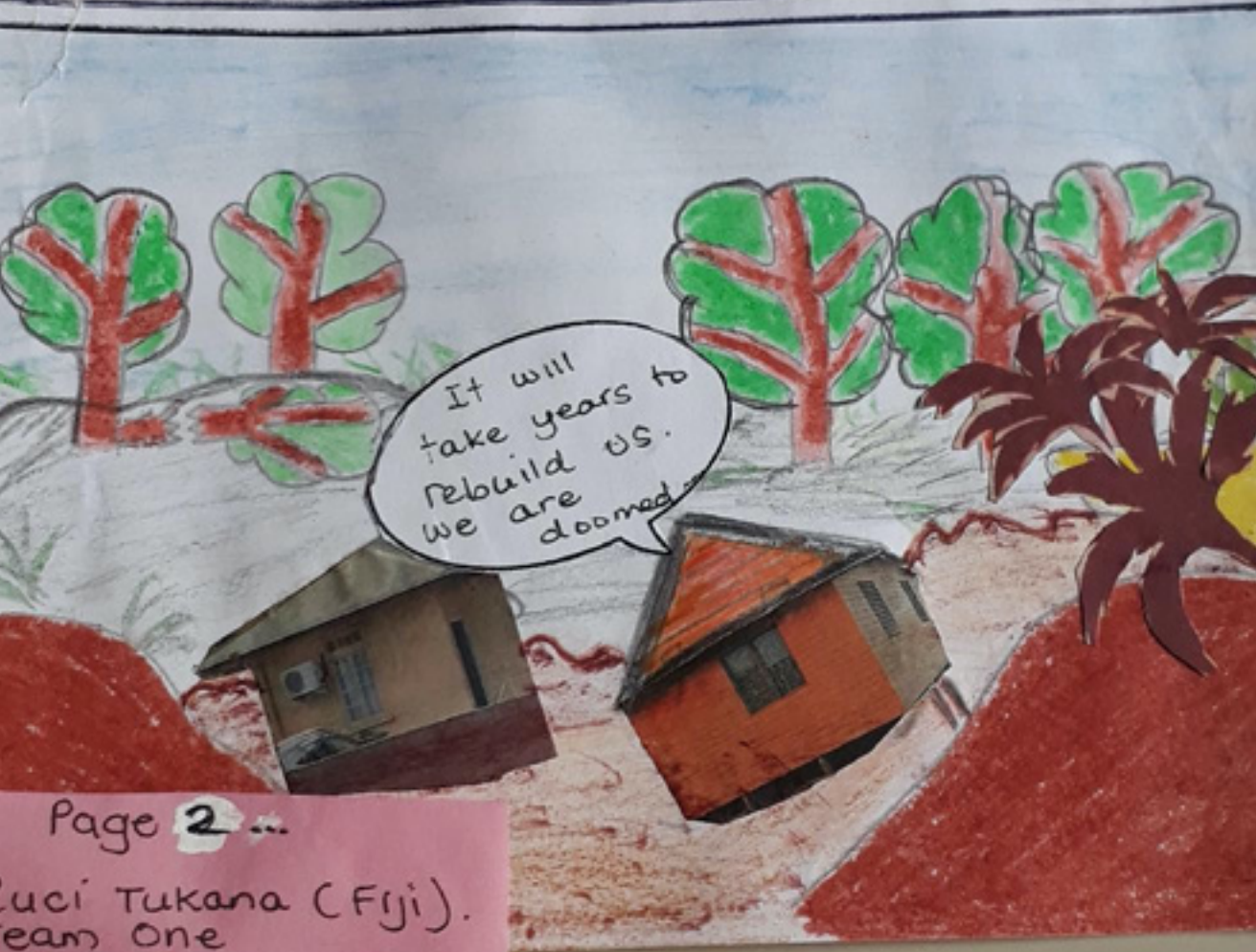
RUCI TAKUNA

FIJI

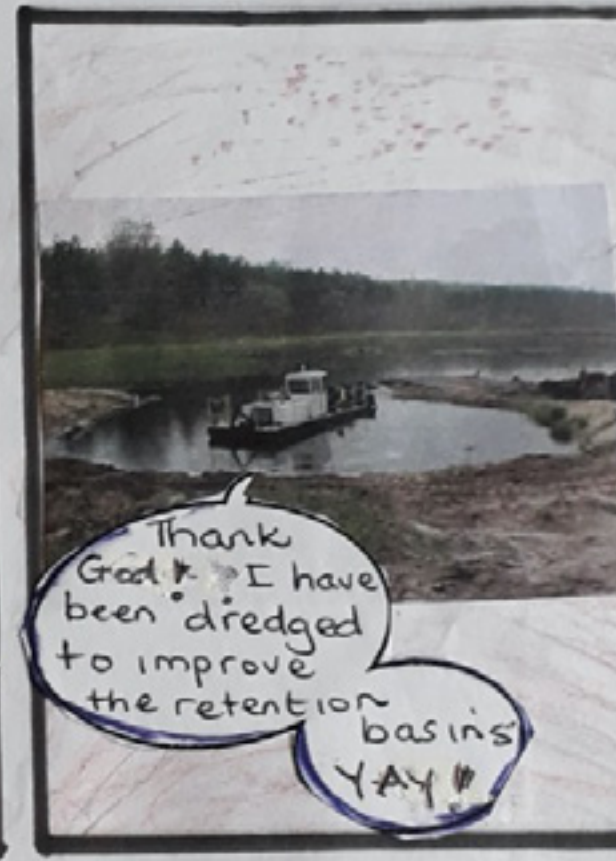
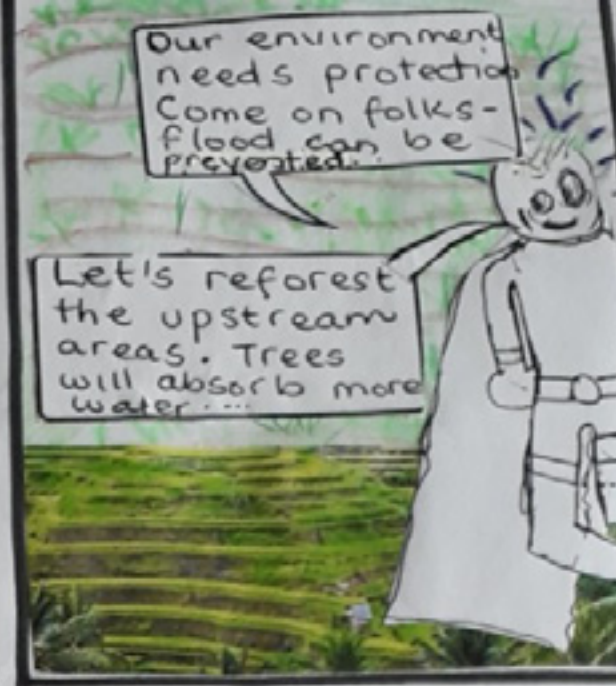
Lady Gelaris (Girls Lets Rise) is an MP and activist who amplifies the voices of gender based victims and rescues them. She is my superheroine, born as ordinary person with super power in her left hand. It is said that Angel Gabriel ordained her hand on her 1st birthday.

Her vulnerability is her beauty which men hunt for. What is special about her is that she disguises herself in her ordinary clothes to evade her enemies. Her glasses help her to foresee victims of violence in any location.





Page 2 ...
Ruci Tukana (Fiji).
Team One



Page 3 ...
Ruci Tukana (Fiji)

OTHER STORIES



Dudzai worked with her mentor and wrote about rebuilding a war-torn nation, and Walla wrote about the importance of cleanliness in their comic stories.



DUDZAI
TALENT KAHUNI
BOTSWANA



WALLA
SALEM
EGYPT



Dudzai has been teaching with Access since 2015 at Stepping Stones International in Mochudi, Botswana. She has four years of experience of teaching at pre-primary schools and giving private lessons and extra tutoring to Grade 11 and 12 students in a range of subjects. She also works with orphaned and vulnerable children and youth. She has found that making her own stories using comics has been the best experience. She wants to use comic-making in different projects at her organization, including teaching English literacy, offering counseling sessions, and relaying information about important topics such as gender-based violence or child abuse. She notes that students can feel free to use comics to express themselves or tell their stories. Her greatest takeaway is that everyone can learn from the Access program, not just English teachers.

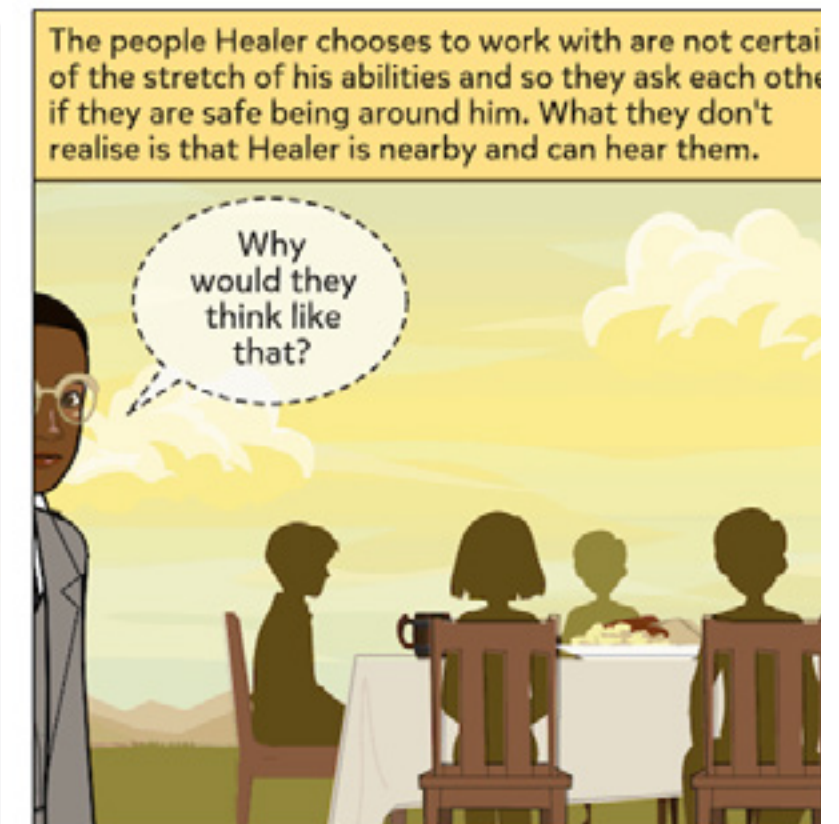
Walla has been teaching with Access for two years with Amideast/Egypt. She has been teaching English for fifteen years and also teaches Math, Science, and Social Studies for students in Years 1 and 2. She joined the AEC ComicsVX program because she was curious to learn about comics and wanted her Access students to meet other classes virtually. She started to share what she learned with one of her colleagues, who is preparing a thesis about short stories for kids, and he liked the idea very much.

DUDZAI TALENT KAHUNI

BOTSWANA

My hero 'The Healer' is a politician that was exiled during a coup d'etat because the new military regime knew of his power to see into the future. (Villagers called him the soothsayer.) They hoped to use him for their personal gain.

Things have changed and he is back to restore his beloved country that has crumpled into ruins because of greed and selfishness.





Healer is on a mission, campaigning for the presidency. His ability to see the future is directing him a step ahead of his opponents.



He is about to have a 'vision episode' in front of people, so he rushes off to hide before the world knows about his strange powers.



Healer doesn't know where he is and how he got there.



Healer was struck by lightning and is discovering new things about himself.....to be continued

WALLA SALEM

EGYPT

My superhero's name is Cleanliness Girl. She removes rubbish from the street and then grows trees and flowers.

My superhero's origins are from Pharaoh, ancient Egyptian god of cleanliness. She lost her father as he was seriously ill and passed away five years ago because his lungs caught a serious disease from the dirty streets.

Her special power is moving the air with her broom to turn the dirty place into a beautiful garden full of trees. Also, she punishes people who throw rubbish in the streets by keeping them in a remote area for 45 days.







Bakary and Mohammed worked with their mentors to craft their stories. Bakary wrote about access to education in Egypt and Mohammed wrote about education in Senegal.



**BAKARY
SISSOKO**

MALI



**MOHAMMED
FAROUK**

EGYPT



Bakary has been teaching with Access since 2018 at the Monseigneur Luc Sangaré Language Center in Hamdallaye in Bamako, Mali. He has been teaching English outside of Access for eight years. He decided to join the AE Comics program in order to acquire new teaching methods, especially using comics in his teaching. His favorite part of the program was the collaboration, and he is taking away new comic platforms, how to make one's own comics, and the use of Pixton in making comics.

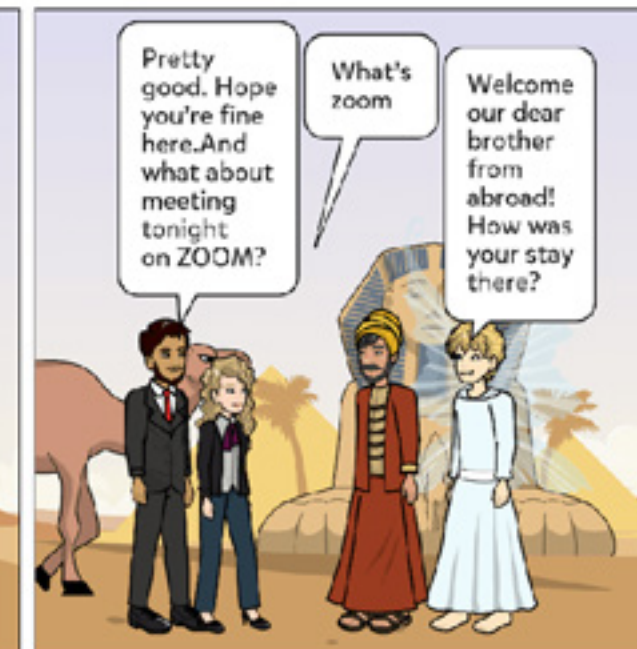
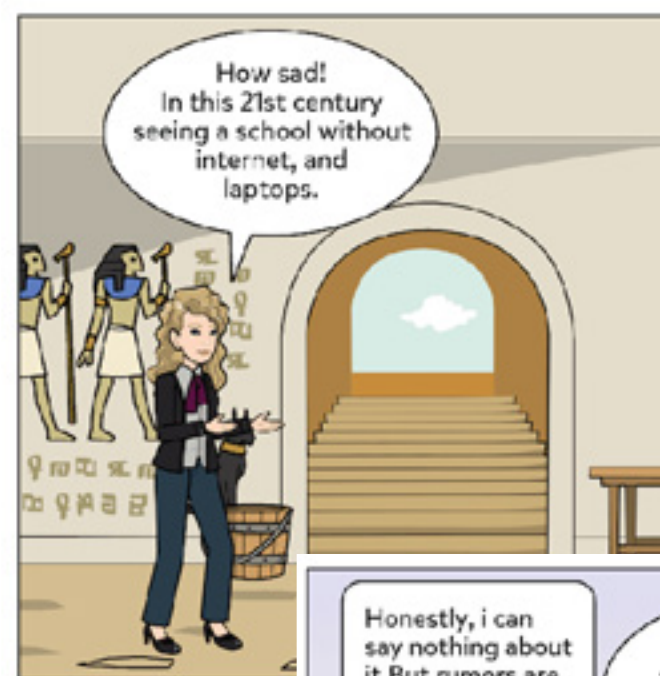
Mohammed has been teaching English for ten years now, and has been an Access teacher for one year. As a teacher, he felt his teaching had become quite predictable, and he wanted something to break the mold and breathe new life into his classes. The comics course provided him with new ideas and interesting tools that in return, will have a dramatic effect on his students and make his class more interesting.

BAKARY SISSOKO

MALI

Some call him, “Optimistic Man,” others call him, “Man of Happiness,” and others even call him “Peaceful Man.” He survived in a war which has destroyed his entire village including animals and food.

So, with his understanding skills, calmness, power and determination his challenge is to make peace everywhere and sensitize community members about drawbacks of war.





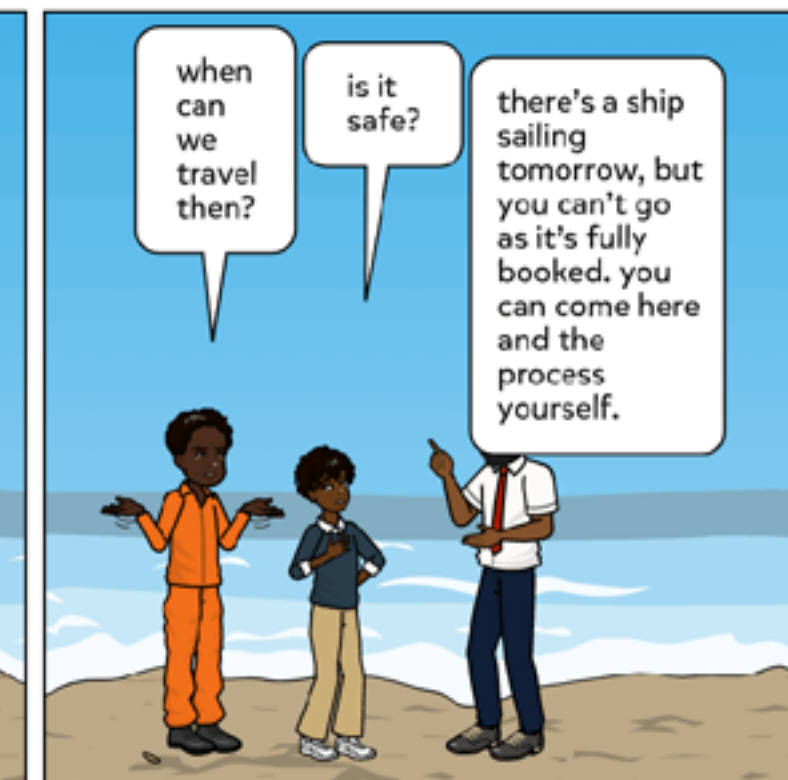
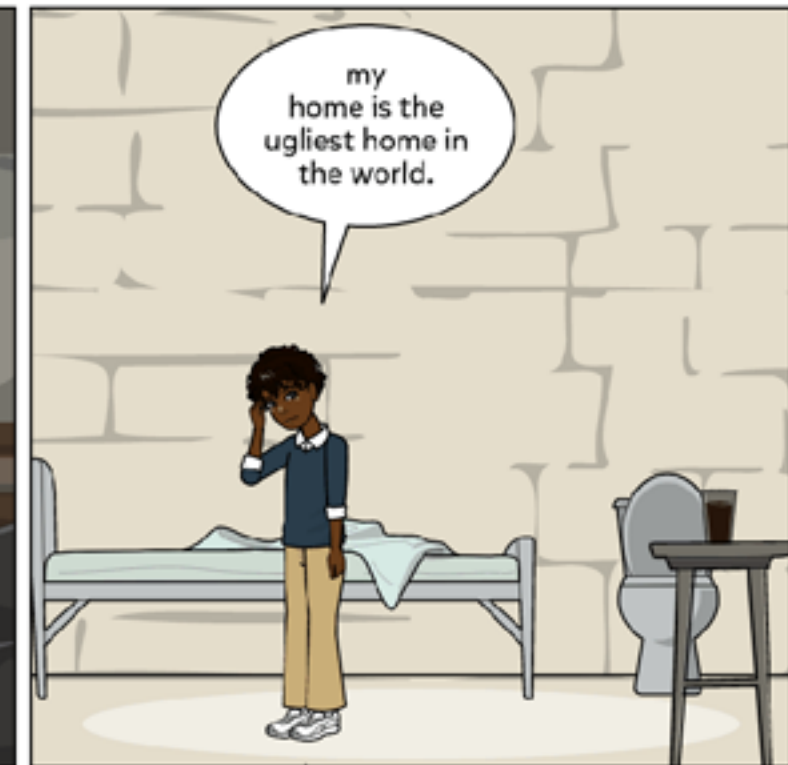
MOHAMMED FAROUK

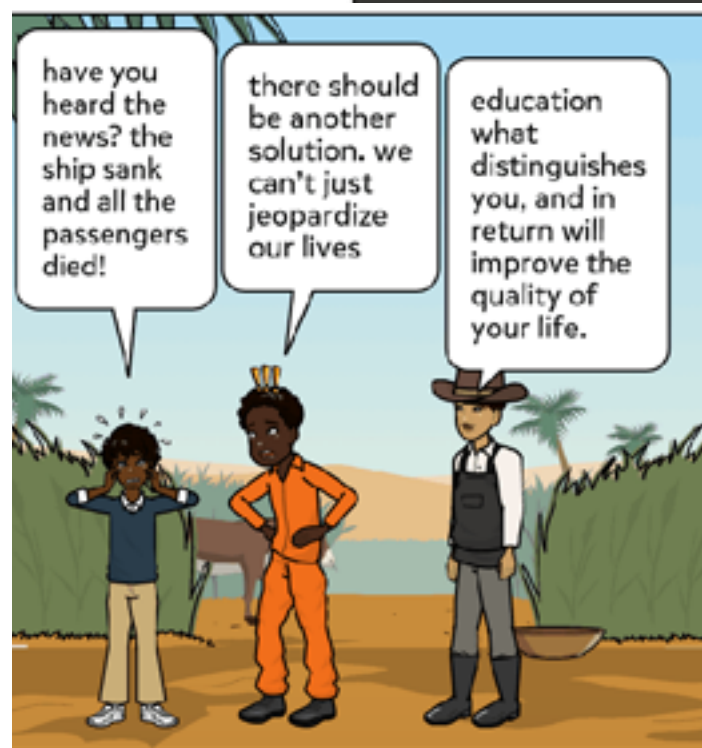
EGYPT



It's common these days that people easily fight for such silly problems. For some reason, arrogance gets in the way and they just don't want to compromise. Everyone thinks, "I take it all, or leave it all." From my humble point of view, I believe it's because of lack of wisdom.

My national superhero is quite different. He's such a smart wise guy who can solve all problems and can make up between people by his wise words.





STUDENT WORK ACROSS THE GLOBE

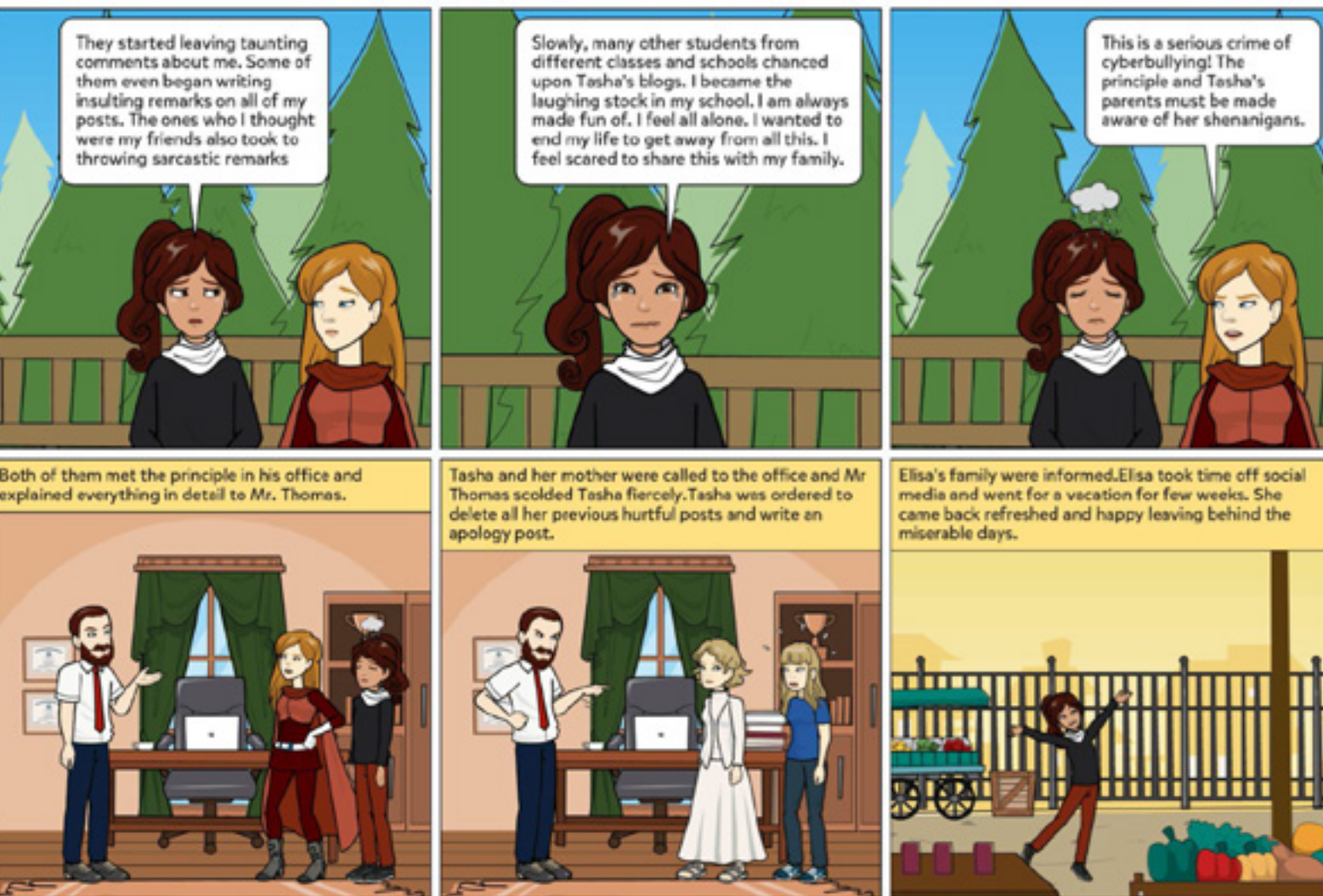
Several participants in this AE Comics VX cohort were fortunate to have students with which the participants could test new strategies.

This space includes excerpts from comics created by English Access Microscholarship students from around the world.



students of Andres Tolosa, Colombia





by students of Yulia Yusoltseva, Russia, and Amna Khan, Pakistan

Fathima Azeeza, student of Mohib Ullah, Bangladesh

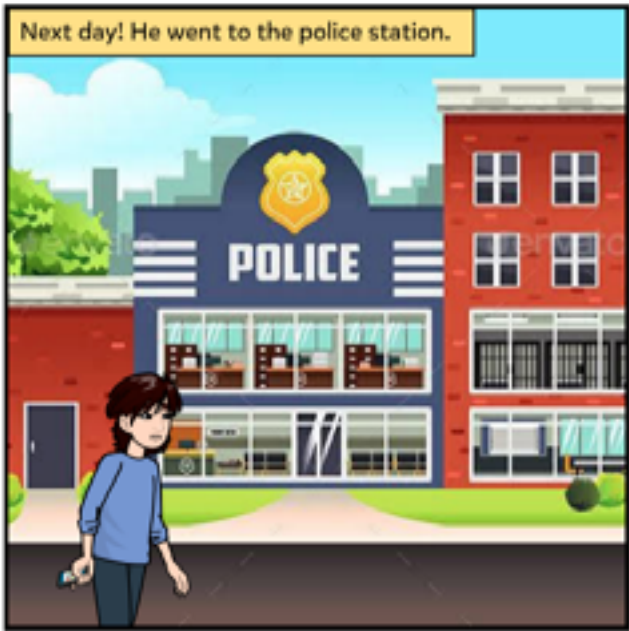
We should protect ourself from Corona virus



Ahmed, student of Walla Salem, Egypt



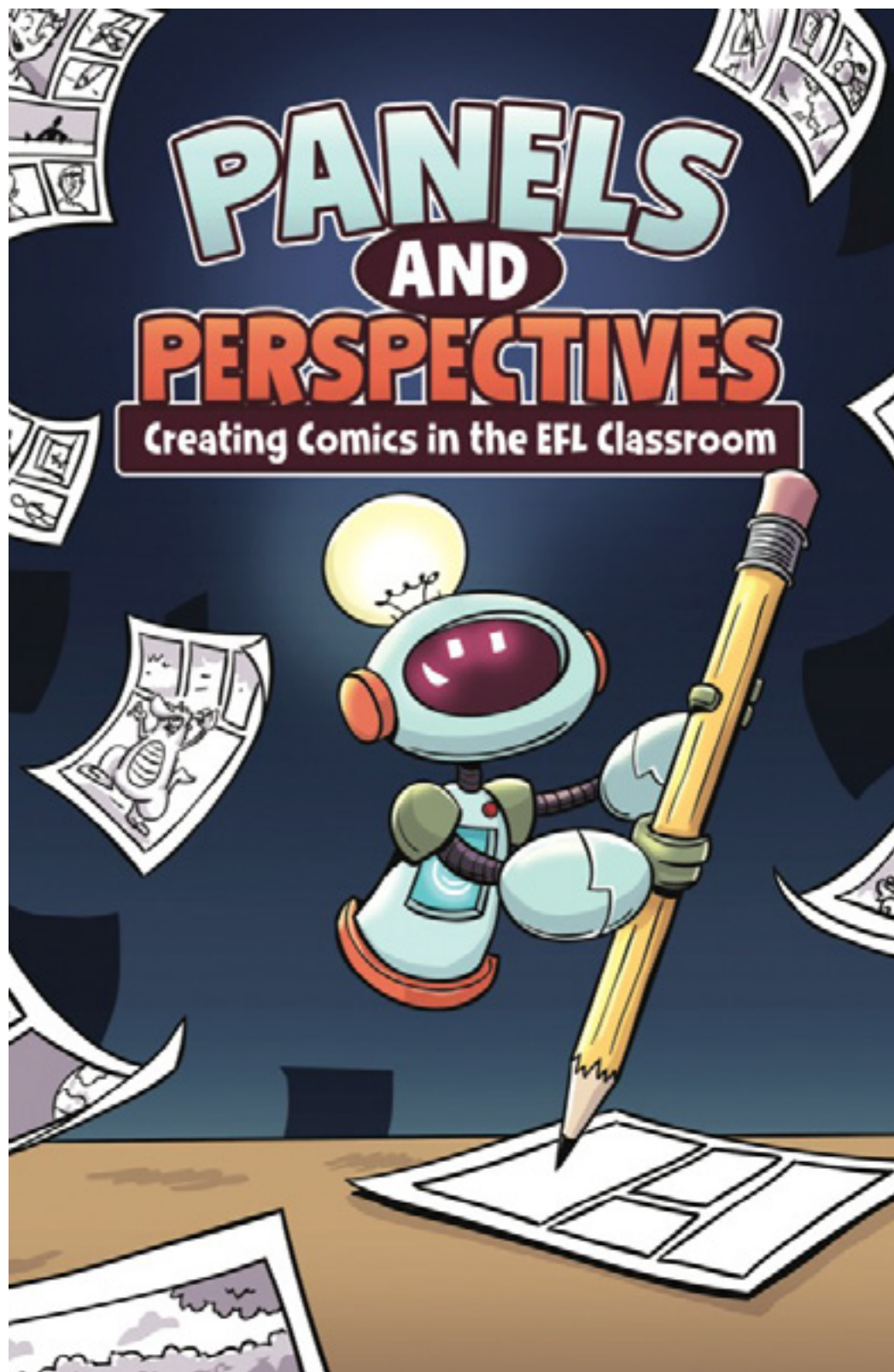
Manar Gabe, student of Walla Salem, Egypt



by students of Yulia Yusoltseva, Russia, and Amna Khan, Pakistan



by Sanjida Rahman, student of Md. Eftekar Uddin, Bangladesh



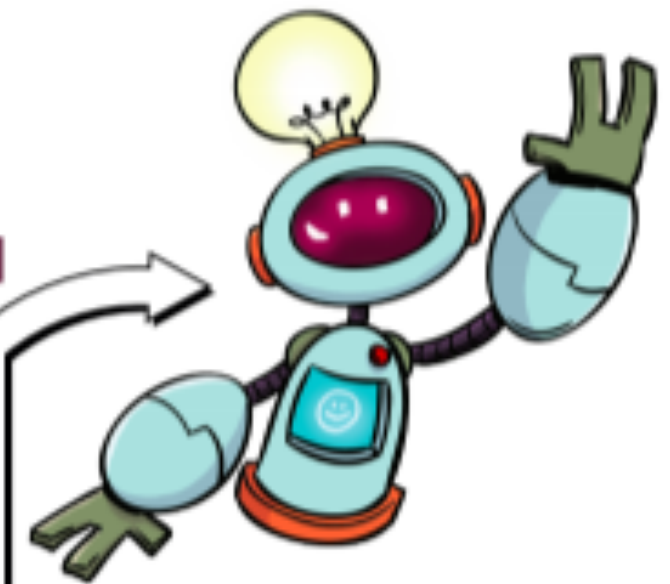
Learn more about using comics in the classroom by downloading Panels and Perspectives, a publication from the Office of English Language Programs, available at <http://bit.ly/EFLComics>

PANELS AND PERSPECTIVES

Creating Comics in the EFL Classroom

MEET O.R.I.

OUR ROBOT INSTRUCTOR IS READY TO TAKE YOU ON AN INSTRUCTIONAL TOUR ABOUT COMIC BOOKS. LEARN HOW TO USE THEM AND CREATE THEM IN YOUR CLASSROOM!



What's Inside:

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History



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Structure of Comic Books



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Tools to Make Comic Books



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Storytelling



Pages 9-11

Why and How to Make Comic Books



Created by:

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JOSH ALVES • ARTIST

JACQUELINE GARDY • EDITOR