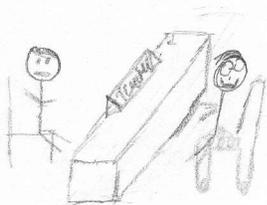
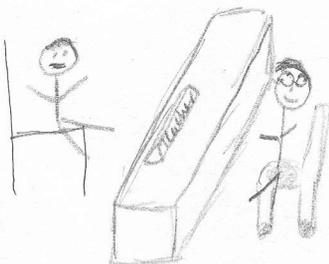


The day had come for Joe's ORAL EXAMINATION regarding the two comics, Topffer's "The Adventures of Mr. Obadiah Oldbuck" and John McKinley's "Noodle's Attempts at Suicide."



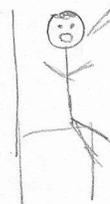
Undoubtedly, Joe was full of nerves, despite his great knowledge of comics.

The teacher proceeded to ask him questions about the similarities of the two comics.



To which question, Joe responded...

Well... other than the obvious, such as the ridiculousness of Mr. Oldbuck's and Noodle's suicide attempts, there are many stylistic similarities between the two. One striking similarity is how neither used the very tool with which I am currently communicating with you... the word balloon! Instead, both authors used captions like the ones used in the last two panels.



Well... other than the obvious, such as the ridiculousness of Mr. Oldbuck's and Noodle's suicide attempts, there are many stylistic similarities between the two. One striking similarity is how neither used the very tool with which I am currently communicating with you... the word balloon! Instead, both authors used captions like the ones used in the last two panels.

## JOE'S COMIC EXAM

Indeed, the artwork is impressively similar considering they were made by two different people (nearly 20 years apart). Both authors used pencil (or some black writing utensil) and used lines, light and heavy, to add dimension and shape. Also regarding artistic design, neither comic had especially cartoonish features.



Rather, the faces of characters were drawn closer to reality...

They used details on the face shape, particularly the nose and jaw, to make the face closer to what people normally see. Extran lines on the face are also used to show shading and wrinkles.



My attempt to copy the face of Mr. Oldbuck.

And as for the question of whether these two comics belong in an anthology of comics, I definitely do think they belong! As the first forms of the now modern comic, and since Topffer is considered the godfather of comics, it begins the anthology (at least relating to the now modern comic)!



An anthology does have to have some sort of beginning. And, what better beginning than the first comics with panels and the combination of words and pictures. Ah! I almost forgot... another similarity!



Changing the size of panels for an element of surprise! And changing the size of people in order to emphasize certain people or things!



I'm speechless...

As these comics represented the earliest forms of comics, they both lack certain... should I say tricks or special comic effects that comic authors have developed over time such as...

