

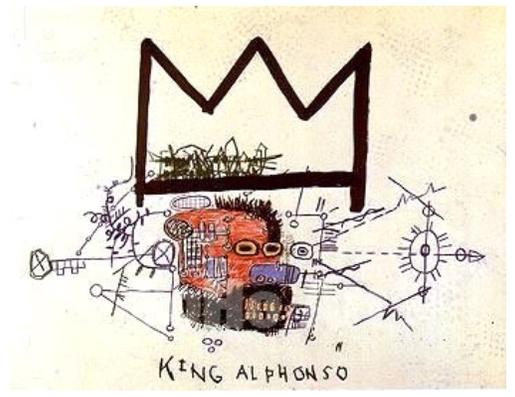
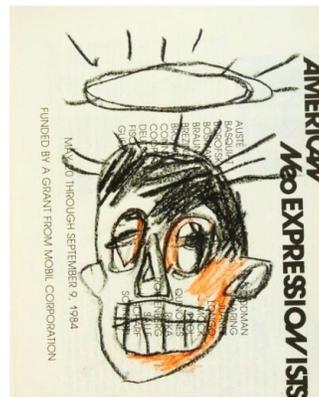
Crayon Collection

Lesson: Guide students through a line-drawn portrait inspired by artist Jean-Michel Basquiat.

Sit across from a partner with a piece of paper and a color crayon in your hand. Draw your partner **without** looking at the page. This is called a blind-contour drawing. Start at one of your subject's eyes, with your crayon touching the paper, slowly draw across the eye down your partner's nose, to their lips, across the lips and down to the chin. Draw, but **don't look!** Follow the chin down to the neck and hair. Have fun exploring your partner's face with the crayon on the paper. You can also start another line where the other eye would be. Continue the line out to the ear and up along the hairline, maybe in a different color. Remember, **don't look** at the page until you are all done.



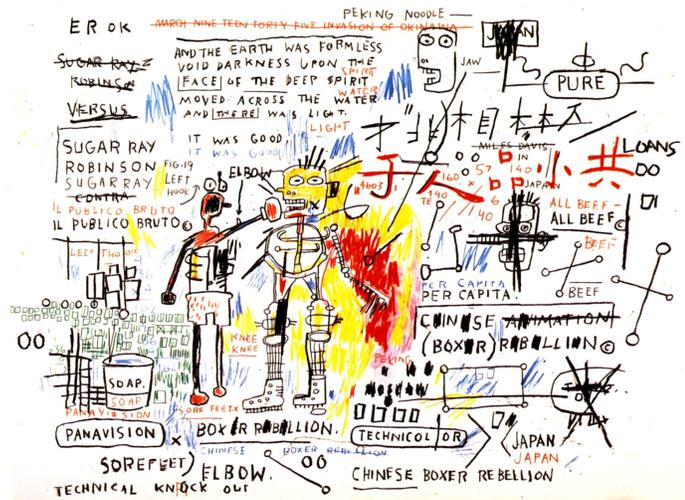
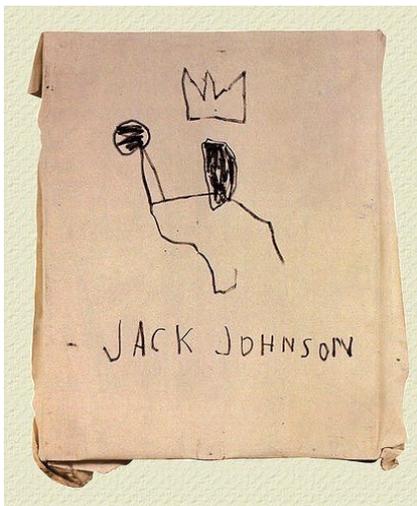
Now that you have the beginning of a character on your page, take a look at these drawings by Jean-Michel Basquiat, a Haitian-American artist from the 1980's. See how he uses the symbol of the "halo" or the "crown" to change the perception on a character.



Choose a “halo” or a “crown” for you partner. Which one is more fitting? LOL



Words and language also play an important part in Basquiat's work. By combining words with symbols, his paintings tell stories. See how he can tell simple stories and complicated ones.



With that in mind, pick any two words that **compliment** your classmate. Be kind and funny. HAPPY, SNEAKERS, TALL, PIZZA, NECKLACE, RED, BOUNCE, MAGNIFICENT!

Write the words anywhere on your drawing, along the bottom, or the sides. This is art, you can be messy! You can also put a plus sign (+) or an equals sign (=) in between different words to change their meaning. And don't forget to make mistakes. If you misspell a word, leave it, or cross one out to bring more attention to it. The imperfections are what make each drawing unique and fun to look at!

Bravo, you made a line-drawn portrait inspired by artist Jean-Michel Basquiat.

For your next drawing, you can add more words or use different colored crayons for parts of the face. Or you can draw different kinds of hats, a baseball cap or a cowboy hat. And again, don't forget to have fun making mistakes. That is how we learn!

Here are some examples of portraits:

