

8. Animation Exercise: 30 second biography

Take the life of an artist or historical figure and sum it up in a single paragraph.

Example

Jackson Pollock was born in Cody, Wyoming. His family gave up farming and moved to California where the landscape influenced him greatly. His early influences were Picasso and the Surrealists and the Mexican Muralist Sequieros. Although supported by the 'new deal' federal Art project, he descended into depression and alcoholism. His brothers encouraged him to undergo psychoanalysis. His painting became influenced by the sub-conscious, finally developing into the spontaneous 'action painting' style for which he is best known. In the summer of 1956, he drove his car into a tree while drunk, killing himself and one of his fellow passengers.

(This can then be used as a voiceover or the student can play with text visually).

Next, storyboard some imagery associated with the theme, collect and download images and produce a thirty second animation/film, which illustrates the paragraph. This exercise can be adapted as a group class work piece or an individual 40-60 second coursework piece.

References

Clip 8.1 uses Jackson Pollock's life story and combines several techniques.