Task for *Ubby’s Underdogs*

**Graphic novel/comic: Terms and concepts**

**Figures**

**Faces:** Faces can be portrayed in different ways. Some depict an actual person, like a portrait; others are iconic, which means they are representative of an idea or a group of people.

Other points to observe about faces include:

- They can be dramatic when placed against a detailed backdrop; a bright white face stands out.
- They can be drawn without much expression or detail; this is called an ‘open blank’ and it invites the audience to imagine what the character is feeling without telling them.

**Hands/Feet:** The positioning of hands and feet can be used to express what is happening in the story. For example, hands that are raised with palms out suggest surprise. The wringing of hands suggests obsequiousness or discomfort. Hands over the mouth depict fear, shame, or shyness. Turned in feet may denote embarrassment, while feet with motion strokes can create the sense of panic, urgency, or speed.

**Text**

**Captions:** These are boxes containing a variety of text elements, including scene setting, description, etc.

**Speech balloons:** These enclose dialogue and come from a specific speaker’s mouth; they vary in size, shape, and layout and can alternate to depict a conversation. Types of speech balloons include those holding:

- External dialogue, which is speech between characters.
- Internal dialogue, which is a thought enclosed by a balloon that has a series of dots or bubbles going up to it.

**Special-effects lettering:** This is a method of drawing attention to text; it often highlights onomatopoeia and reinforces the impact of words such as bang or wow.