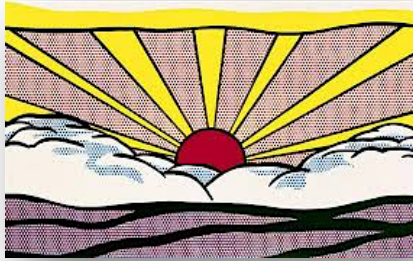# POP ART

ITWA 5th GRADE

May 2018

Pop art is a visual artistic movement that emerged in the mid 1950s in Britain and in parallel in the late 1950s in the United States The term was first used by a British art critic , Lawrence Alloway Pop art is one of the major art movements of the twentieth century. Characterized by themes and techniques drawn from *popular* mass culture , such as advertising and comic books, pop art is widely interpreted as either a reaction to the then-dominant ideas of abstract expressionism or an expansion upon them. Pop art, like pop music, aimed to employ images of popular, as opposed to elitist culture in art, emphasizing the banal or kitschy elements of any given culture. Pop art at times targeted a broad audience, and often claimed to do so.

Much of pop art is considered complex because of the unconventional organizational practices used often make it difficult for some to comprehend.
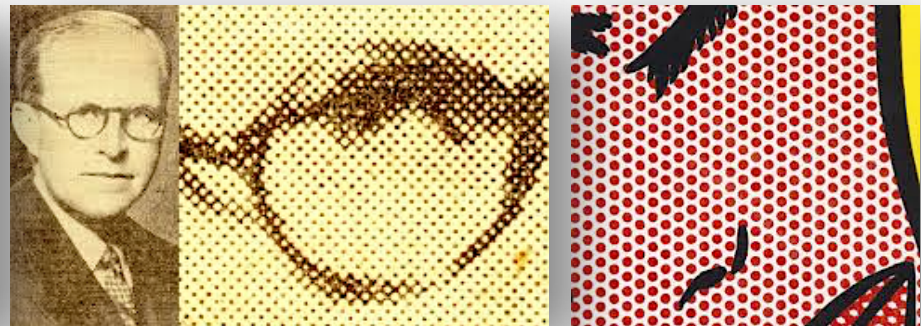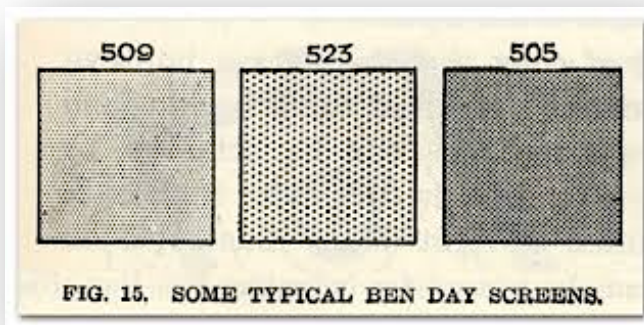
ROY LICHTENSTEIN

Roy Fox Lichtenstein was born in New York City in 1923 and by the 1960s he was one of the most influential artists of the second half of the twentieth century. He helped to create the Pop Art movement and made paintings based on comic strips and advertisements in a style that imitated the rough printing process of newspaper production. Lichtenstein's huge success was matched by his focus, energy and output – he created more than 5,000 painting, drawings, sculptures, murals and other objects which were celebrated for their wit and invention.

COMIC BOOK ART

Lichtenstein's brilliance came about when he combined the cartoon characters from comic books with abstract backgrounds. He imitated the cartoon style but used his own paint texture, lines and movement to make the paintings very much his own work. Most famously Lichtenstein used **Benday dots** – the tiny mechanical patterning used in commercial engraving, such as newspapers, to give his paintings texture and differing colors. Those dots became his trademark device and are forever identified with Lichtenstein and Pop Art.

Examples of the Benday dot system used in the 1960s. And how Lichtenstein adapted it for his work.

Lichtenstein's ability to poke fun but present his art in a serious manner was a wild success and caught everybody's attention.
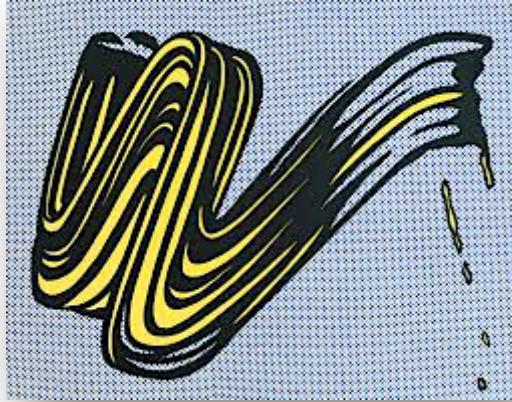
The Project: Draw a portrait of a friend in the style of Roy Lichtenstein

- Take a piece of white card
- Using a pencil, outline the portrait
- Using a black sharpie draw over the pencil outline
- Using the colored markers (red, blue, yellow) to color in the details
- Take a grey marker to create the dots in the background
- Make it POP!

See the following slides to get an idea of what other students have done.

STUDENT SAMPLES