

# Elements of Surrealism

# Remember...

- Surrealism is a literary and artistic movement
- Artists and poets dug into the subconscious mind and used *dream/nightmare* imagery
- Thought to “unlock” the human mind

# Some ways to make the ordinary look extraordinary:

- Scale
- Levitation
- Juxtaposition
- Disclocation
- Transparency
- Transformation/Metamorphosis

# Scale

Making images **larger** or smaller than they would normally be



*The Listening Room, Magritte*

*Les Valeurs Personnelles (Personal Values)*, Magritte, 1952







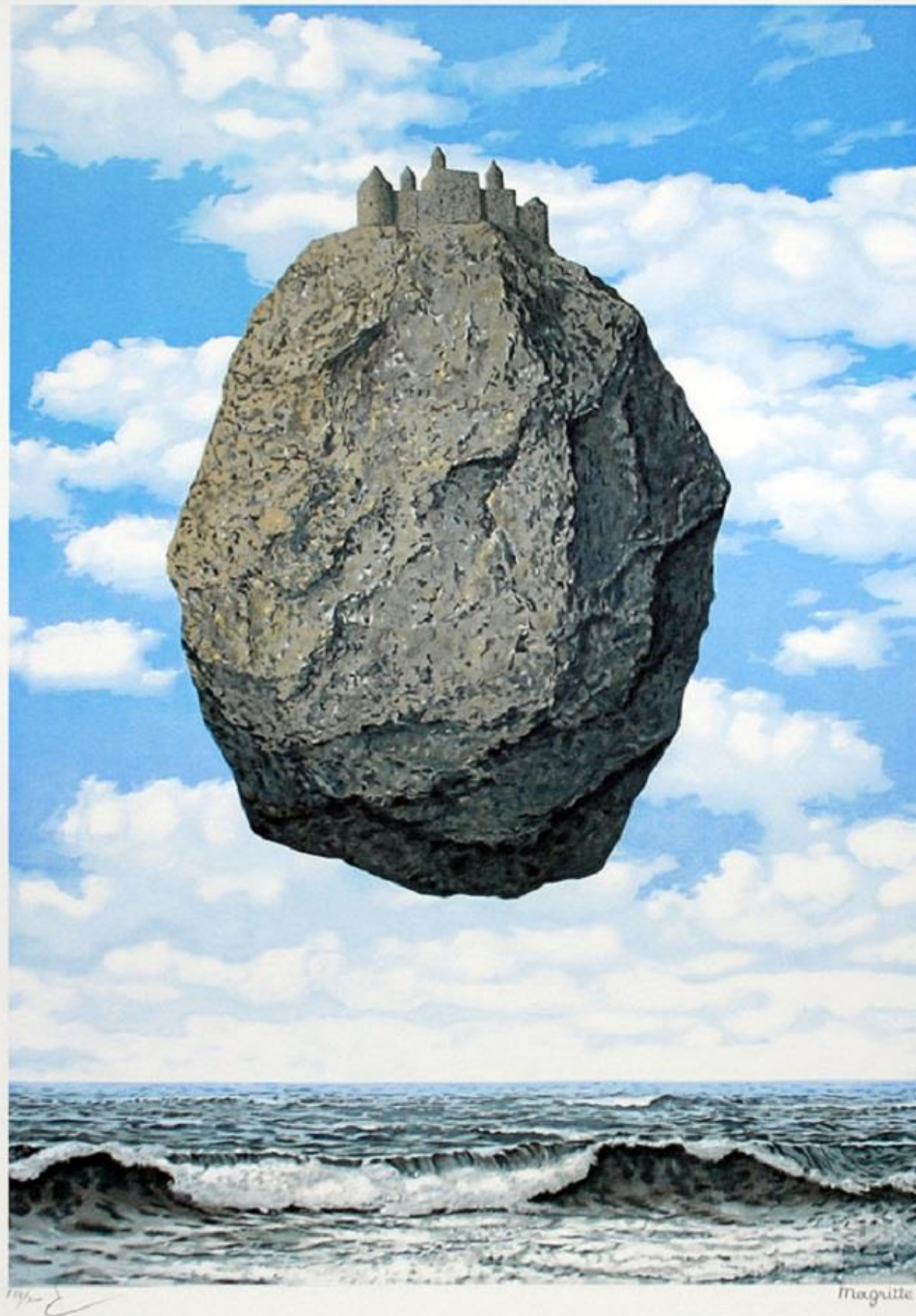
*Empty Kingdom*, Tetsuya Ishida

# Levitation

Floating objects that don't normally float



*Le Château des Pyrénées,*  
René Magritte





## *Breach*

1997, painting on  
canvas

Vladimir Kush



*Golconde*, René Magritte



# Juxtaposition

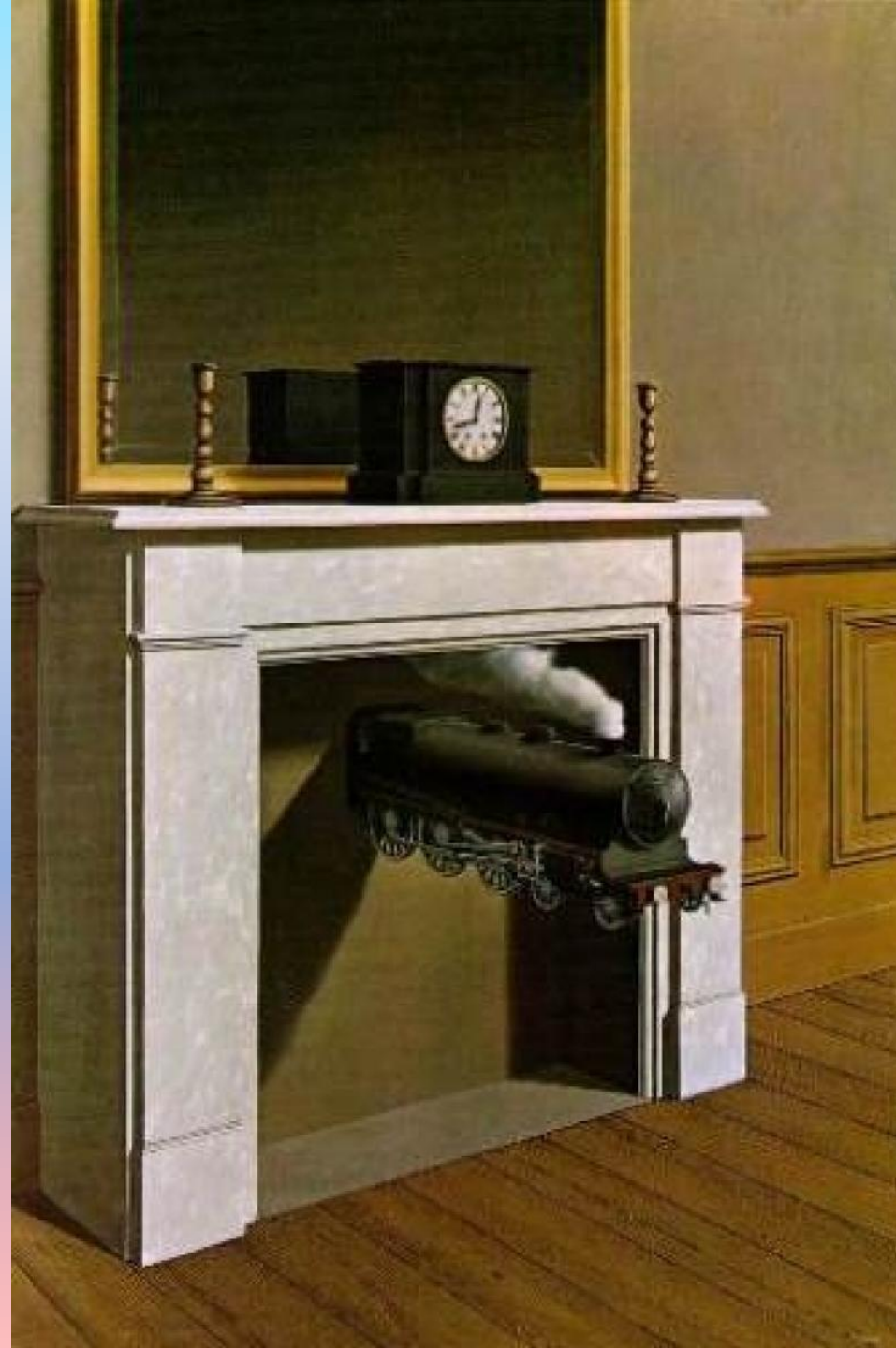
Putting things together that  
wouldn't normally go together



*Lobster Telephone*, Salvador Dalí, 1936



René Magritte's 'Time Transfixed'  
(*'La Durée poignardée'*), 1938



# Transparency

Making objects “see through” (transparent) that aren’t normally transparent



The age of enlightenment (Gate Gustafson)



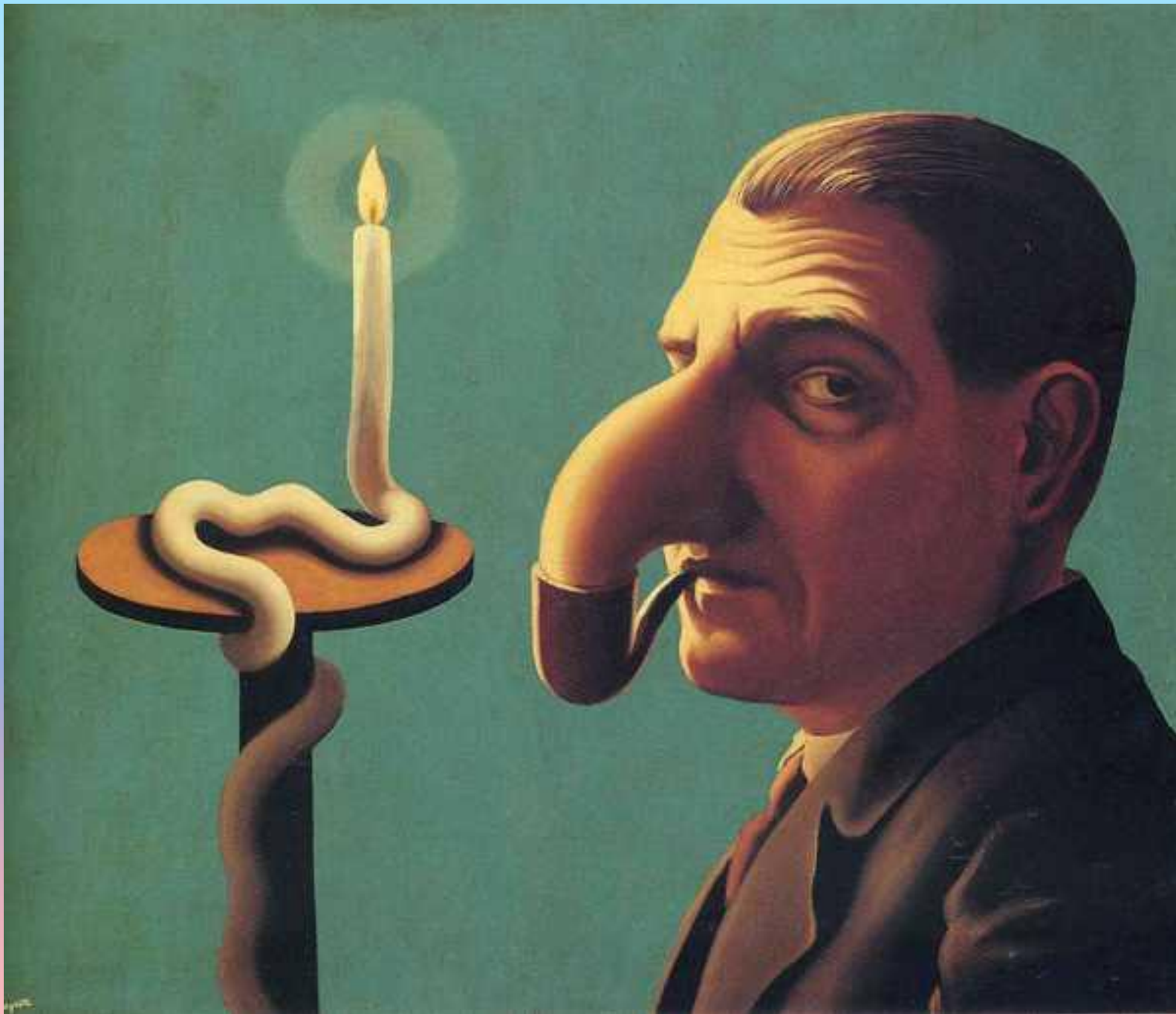
*UNTITLED*, TETSUYA ISHIDA, 2003



# Transformation/Metamorphosis

Objects changing into something new





*The Philosopher's Lamp*  
1936 (Oil on Canvas)  
René Magritte





*The Sun Sets Sail*

Rob Gonsalves



*Le Reve,*  
2015  
Vladimir  
Kush



What elements do you see here...

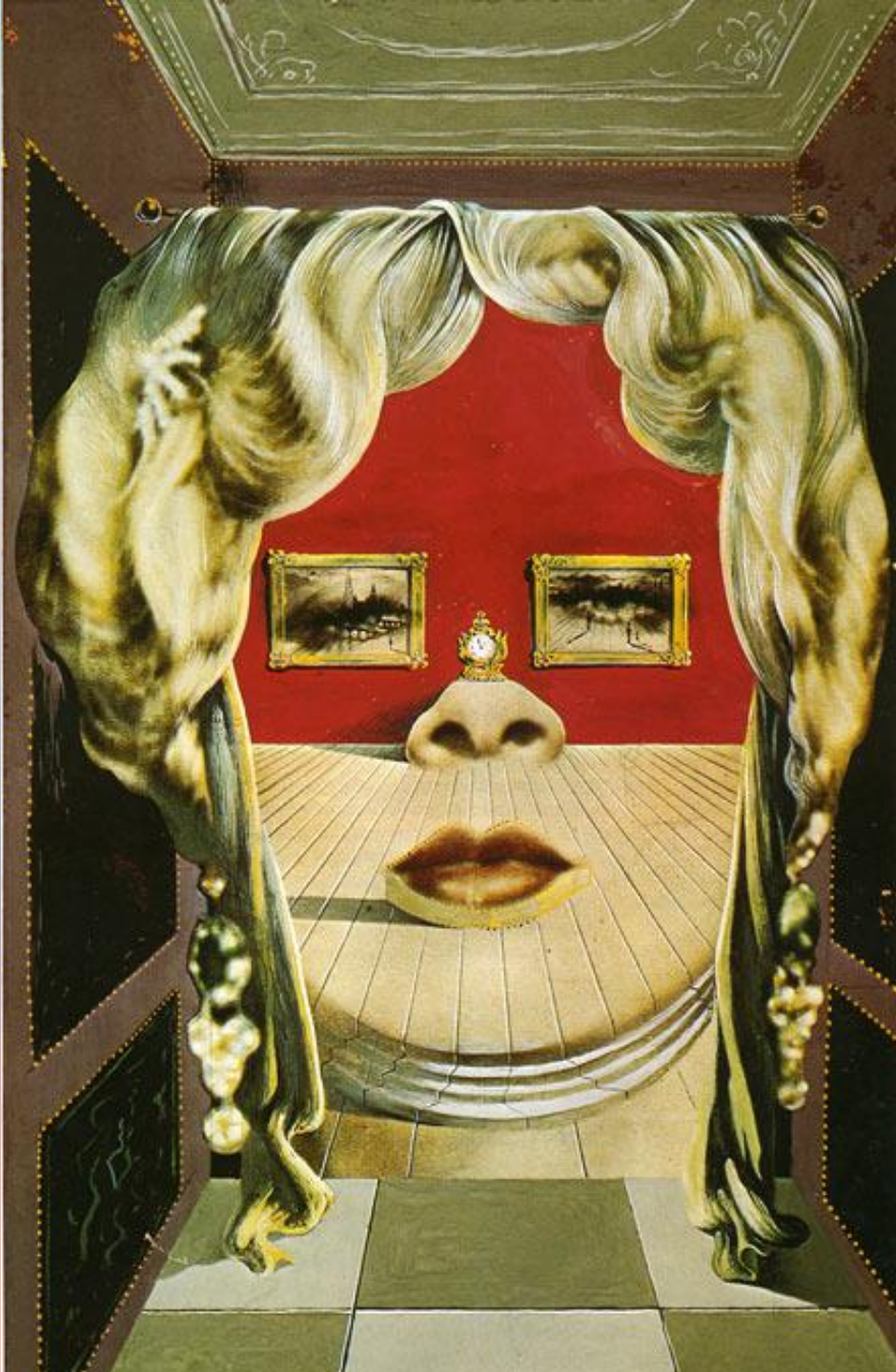


*What elements of surrealism do you see?*

***Roots (The Pedregal)***  
1943, oil on canvas  
Frida Kahlo







*What elements of surrealism  
do you see?*

*Mae West*  
1934, oil on canvas  
Salvador Dalí

What elements of surrealism do you see in these paintings?



*Moonlight Sonata,*  
Vladimir Kush





*What elements of surrealism do you see?*

**AA78**

(1978), oil

Zdzisław Beksiński



*What elements of surrealism do  
you see?*

*Small Portrait*  
1950, oil on canvas

Kay Sage



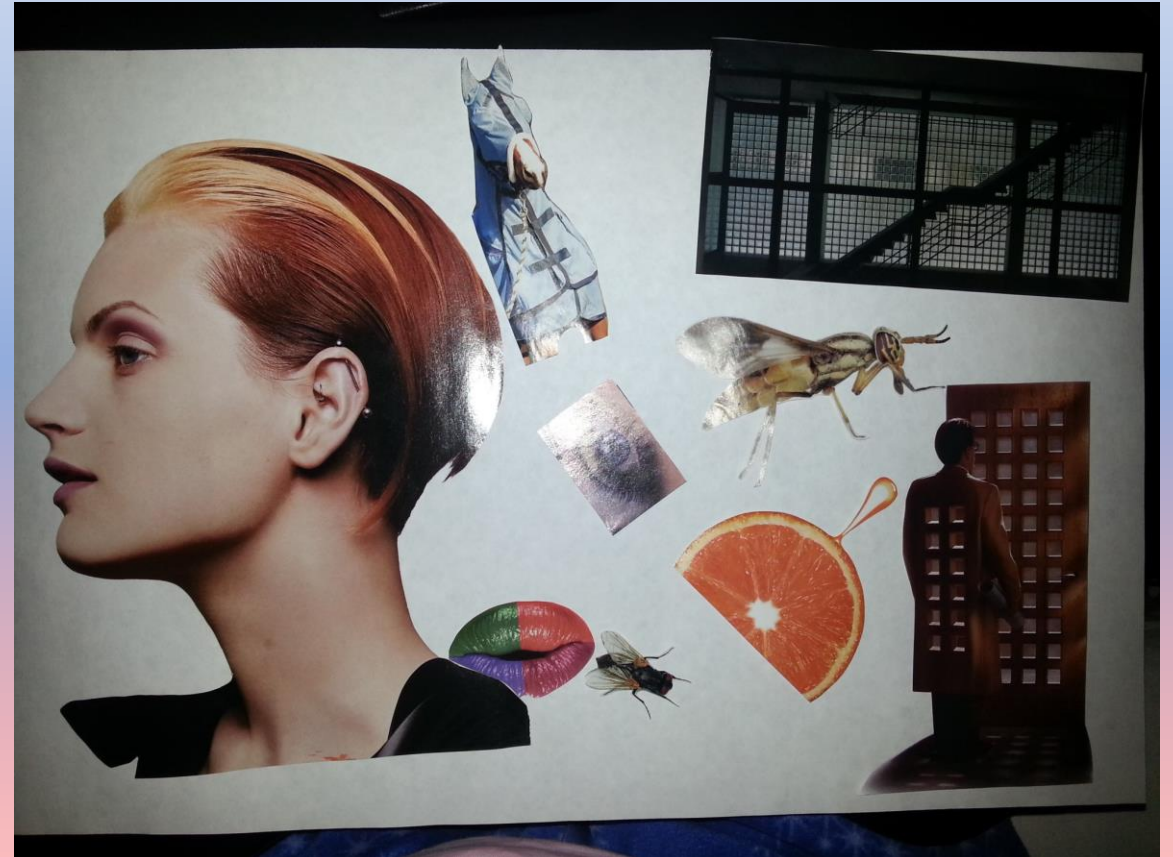
Now it's **YOUR** turn to create some **surrealist** art!

You're going to mix the elements we just learned  
with collage.



# Your task: create a collage that uses at least 3 elements of surrealism

- Step 1: gather images from magazines you find interesting
  - Don't worry if they go together or make sense, just cut out things that you find interesting
  
- **DO NOT glue them onto paper yet!**



- Step 2: create an interesting background
  - You can use ink, pencil, markers...
  - The entire paper should be covered with background detail





- Step 3: plan out how you are going to glue the images you have cut out onto your paper
  - **DO NOT GLUE YET!** This is the planning stage.
  - Remember: you need to use at least 3 elements of surrealism in your work



- Step 4: glue all your images down onto the paper