

- Study the picture for a minute or two. Then, on a piece of paper, write a list of as many nouns as you can that relate to this artwork.
- Remember – nouns are *people, places, things, ideas*.
- Don't overthink it, just brainstorm!



weird
strange
SURREALISM
Magritte
impossible
old
imagination
identity
awkward
interesting
imaginative
funny
crazy
abnormal
senseless
extraordinary
realistic
odd
not-real
freaky
dream-like
myterious
nightmarish
juxtaposition
Dali
masks
contradictions
unrealistic
irregular
real
confusing
different
silhouette
proportions
fantasy

A little bit of history...

- Began 1924 and was popular until 1966
- Developed out of Dadaism during the time of WW1
- Art for that unlocks the power of the imagination and to bring your dreams and your unconscious mind to life
- Meant to shake the viewer out of their comfort zone
- Many different women and men artists were inspired by this new way of creating art

So, what does Surrealism mean...?

[What is Surrealism?](#)

[The Seashell and the Clergyman \(1928\)](#)

[The Case for Surrealism](#)

Teacher
explanation



Surrealism is seeing and expressing things a different way.

It's representing ideas in an exciting and (sometimes) confusing way!

Here are just a few
important

Surrealist artists...

André Breton

- 1896-1966 (France)
- Poet, artist, and writer who also studied medicine & psychiatry
- Founder and leader of the Surrealist movement
 - Drafted the *Surrealist Manifesto* in 1924
- Practiced “automatic writing”



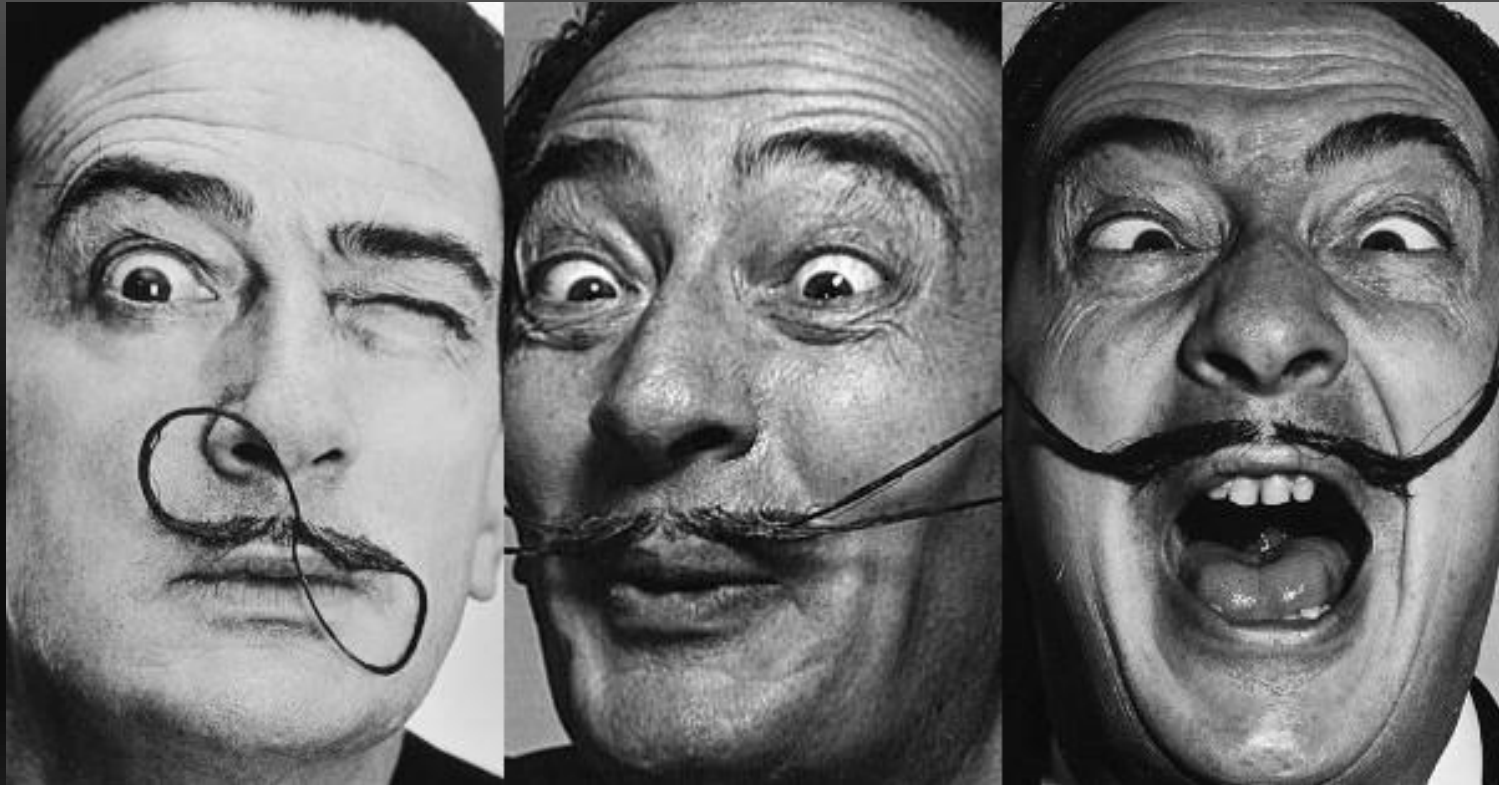
[Surrealism in Literature & Surrealist Writing](#)

Salvador Dali

- 1904-1989 (Spain)
- Interested in Sigmund Freud's writing and psychology
 - Developed theory of the **subconscious**
 - Subconscious is the part of the psyche that thinks and feels without the person being aware to those thoughts and feelings

If dreams are coded messages from our subconscious, then what can be revealed by our dreams?

“The only difference between a madman and me is that I am not mad”



[Salvador Dali short bio](#)



The Persistence of Memory Salvador Dali, 1931. Oil on canvas (9 ½ x 13")

Frida Kahlo

- July 6, 1907-July 13, 1954 (Mexico City)
- Approximately 1/3 of her work is self-portraits
- André Breton considered her to be a surrealist

*“I paint my own reality.
...I paint whatever passes through my
head without any other consideration”*

Who was Frida Kahlo?

- Art was influenced by her history of illness, a troubled personal life, and her relationship with another artist named Diego Rivera



Without Hope (1945)



Memory (the Heart) (1937)

René Magritte

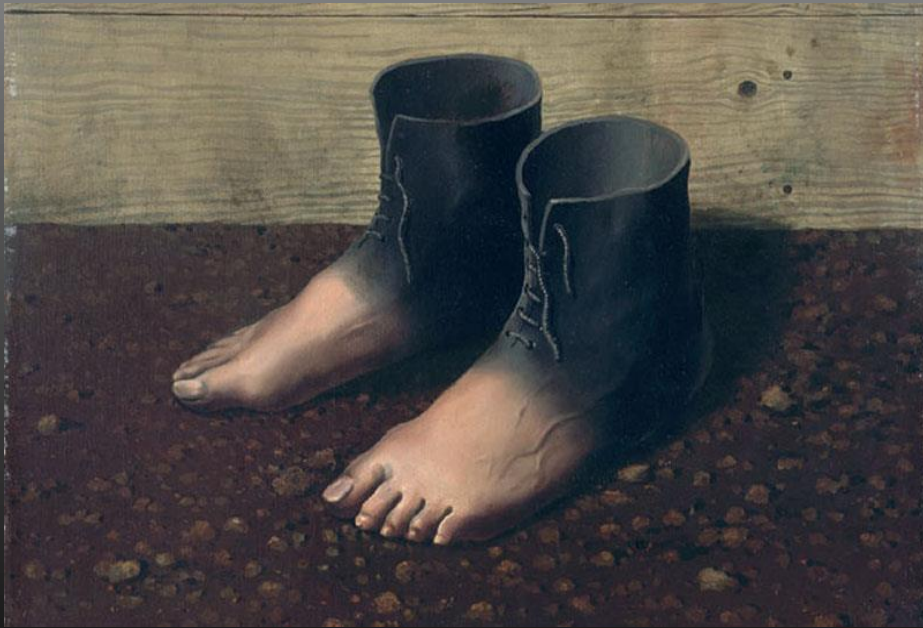
- 1898-1967 (Belgium)
- Surrealist painter
- known for witty and thought-provoking images and his use of simple graphics and everyday objects, giving new meanings to familiar things



*Everything we see hides another thing,
we always want to see what is hidden by what we see.*

[Rene Magritte collection of paintings](#)

Le modele rouge, 1935



La Décalcomanie, 1966



La Trahison des images , 1929



Les valeurs personnelles (1952)



Son of Man

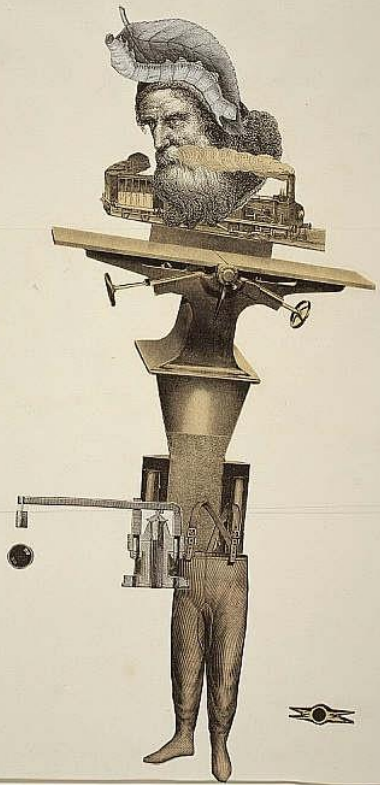
1964

Oil on canvas

(45.67 x 35")

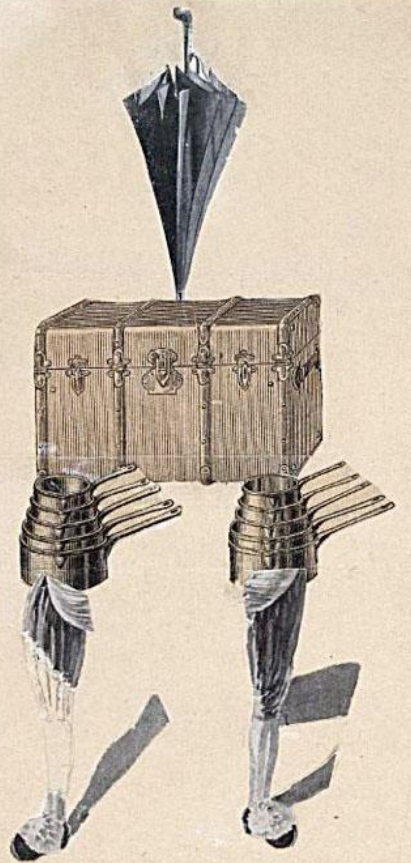
Exquisite Corpse

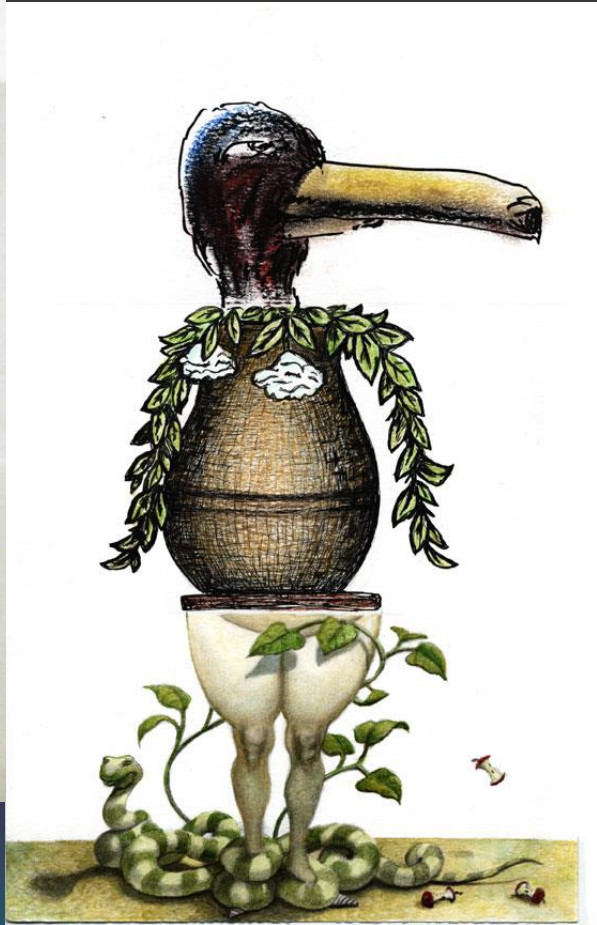
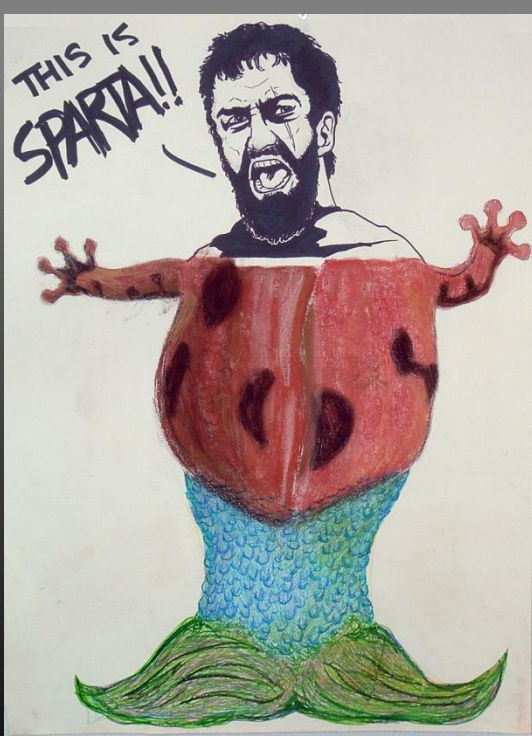
- Game invented in 1925 in Paris by surrealist artists Yves Tanguy, Jacques Prévert, André Breton, and Marcel Duchamp
- Highlights the surrealist idea that creativity can be a shared experience
- Final image or poem is a product of a group's collective imagination

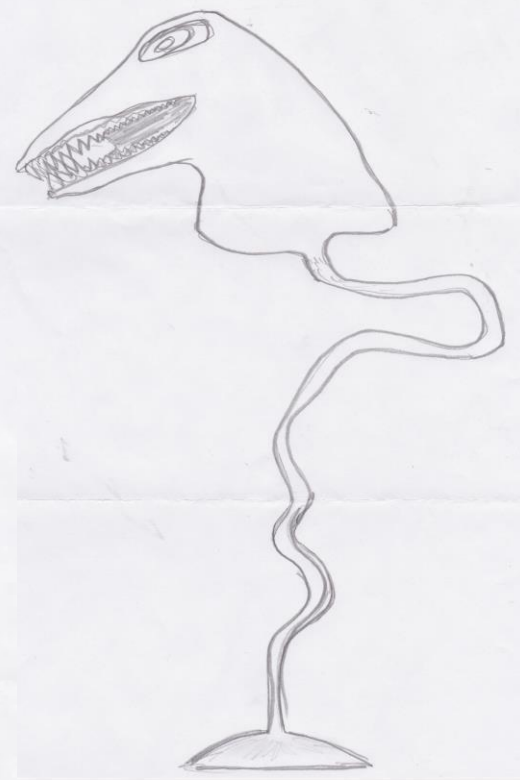
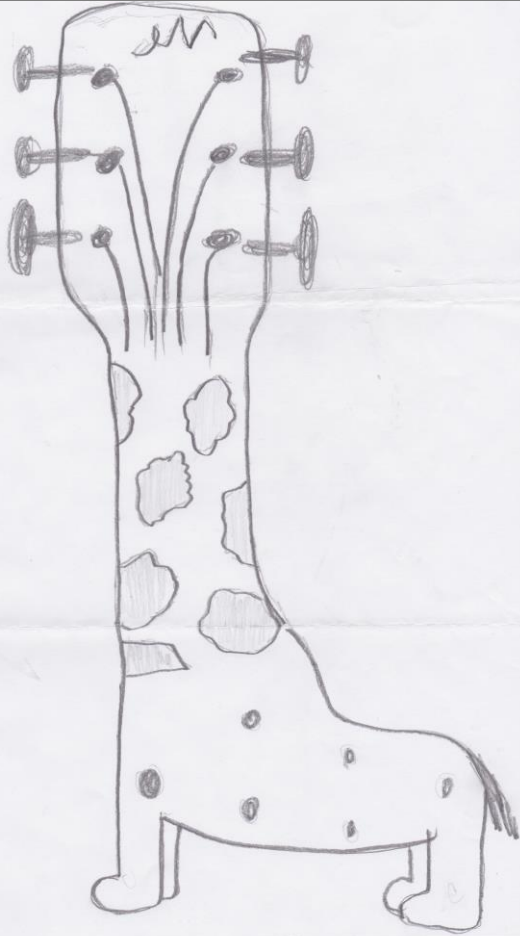


JACQUEMIN LAMBA.

9 février 1938. André - Louis Jeanneret.







Exquisite Corpse

- Split into groups of 3
- Take 3 Legal sized papers. Fold each paper horizontally 2 times to make 3 equal sections down the paper.
- Round 1: each team member gets one piece of paper and draws something that represents a head. Fold over what you have drawn so the next person can't see what you've done. *Be sure to leave guide marks that go into the second section to show where the next person should start their drawing.*
- Round 2: each team member draws something that represents a body. *Remember to leave the guide marks for the next person!* Fold over and pass to the right.
- Round 3: each team member draws something that represents legs.
- Open the papers up to see your exquisite pieces of art!

Groups of 3



Fold



Fold
again



player **1**

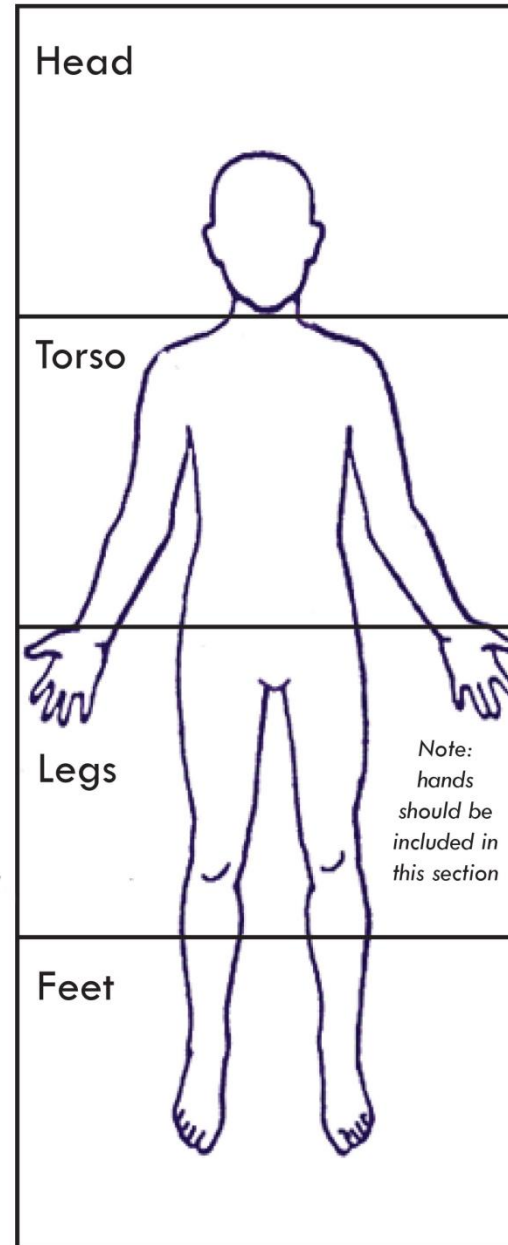
player **2**

player **3**

voila!!!

Groups of 4

Exquisite Corpse Example



Please note: figure and sheets of paper not to scale

FOR TEACHERS!

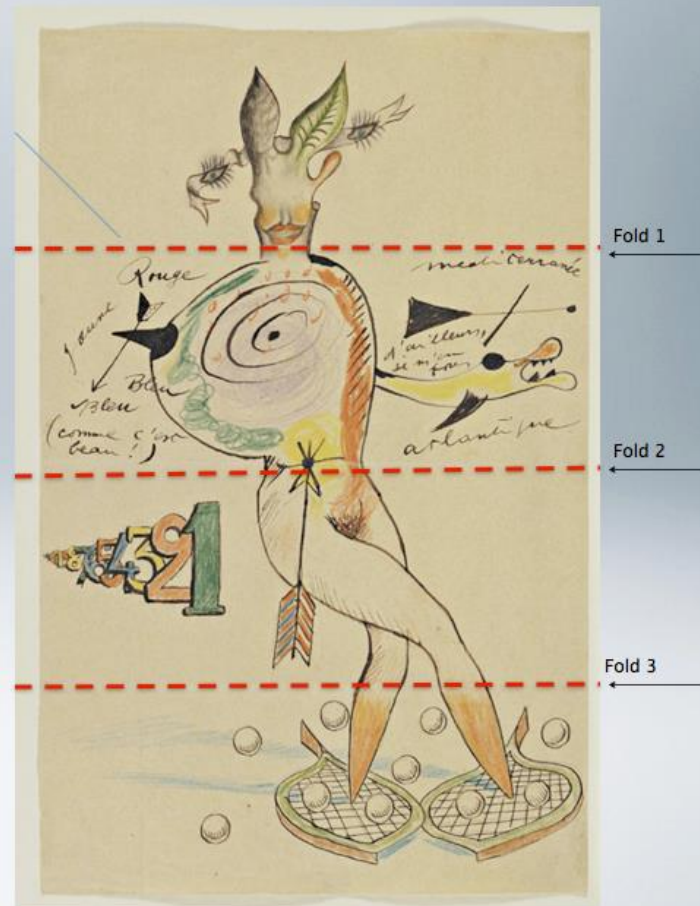
- Have groups pick their favourite image.
- Give each group a long piece of paper (like about 5-6 feet long).
- Groups recreate their drawings onto the large paper lightly in pencil. No need to worry about getting it precise!
- I then have them paint their corpses with good-quality tempera paint. They need to consider how their colour choices affect the “feel” of their art, and choose colours wisely. Think about the colour wheel and how complimentary colours add a bit of “punch” to each other, and so on...
- Large-scale paintings can be used for assessment.

Teacher – further explanation

Exquisite Corpse

EXQUISITE CORPSE RULES

- Game that consists of folding paper and having several people compose a phrase or a drawing on a separate section of the paper
- None of the participants have any idea of the nature of the preceding contributions
- Exquisite corpse is a game of collectivity for creation of composite 'being-objects'
- It is an exploitation of the accident dedicated to the pleasure of discovering a new body through fragmentation and association



Yves Tanguy, Joan Miro, Max Morise, Man Ray, Cadavre Exquis, 1927