Comic Book Art in Photoshop
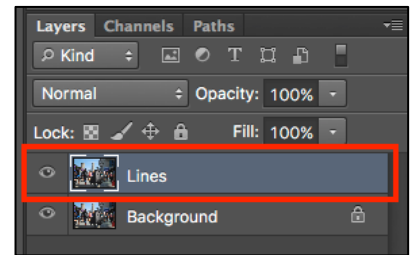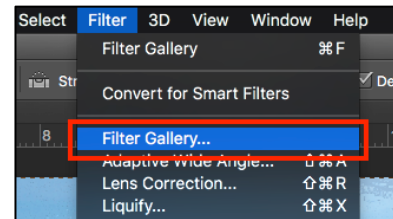
1. Open your image in Photoshop – **File** > **Open**

2. **Layer** > **Duplicate Layer** > call the new layer <u>**Lines**</u> > **OK**

This creates a copy of the background layer so that we can work with it
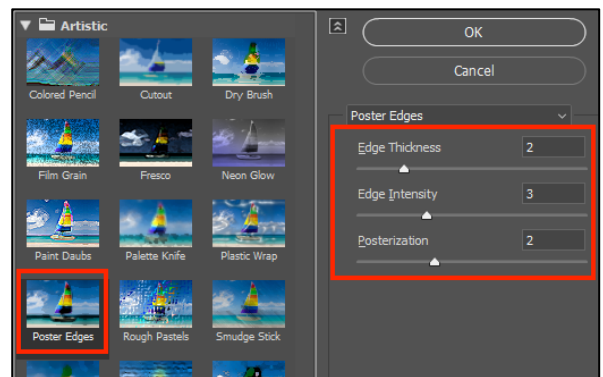
Start with the edges

3. Make sure you're clicked on the <u>**Lines layer**</u>

4. **Filter** > **Filter Gallery**

5. Open the <u>**Artistic section**</u> > choose **Poster Edges**

6. Change the sliders on the right so they read **2 3 2**

7. Click **OK** at the <u>**top right**</u>

This starts to add some of the classic elements you'd get in a comic book, including dark edges and merged colours

Turn it into a line drawing

8. **Image** > **Adjustments** > **Threshold** (about half way down the list)

9. **Reduce** the <u>**Threshold value**</u> to somewhere about **30** (aim for between 20 and 50) > click **OK**
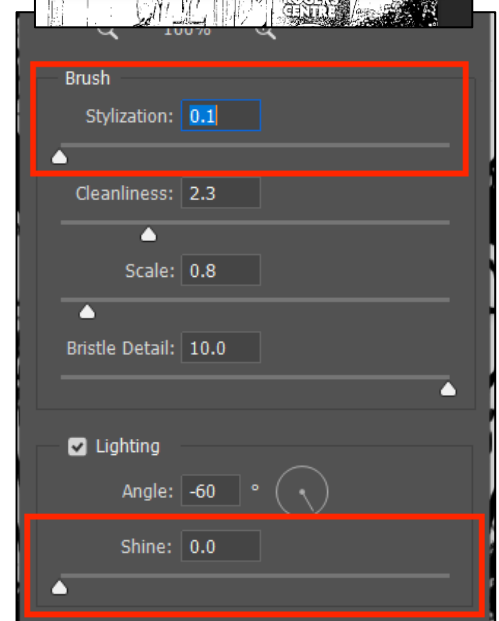
This turns the layer into a line drawing.
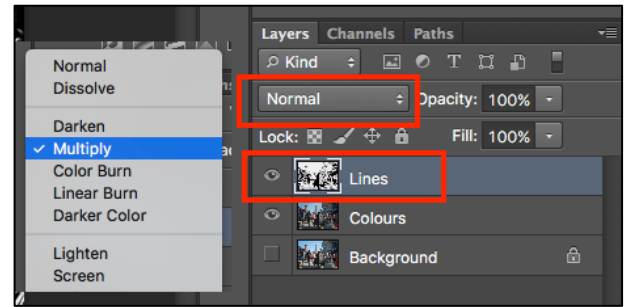
Smooth the lines

The lines are quite jaggy to start with.

10. **Filter** > **Stylise** > **Oil Paint**

11. Set the <u>**Stylization slider**</u> to **0** – as far left as you can

12. At the <u>**bottom**</u>, set the <u>**Shine slider**</u> to **0** > **OK**

Blend the layers

13. Make sure you're still on the **Lines layer**
14. Use the **drop down box** that says **Normal** above the Lines layer > change the setting to **Multiply**
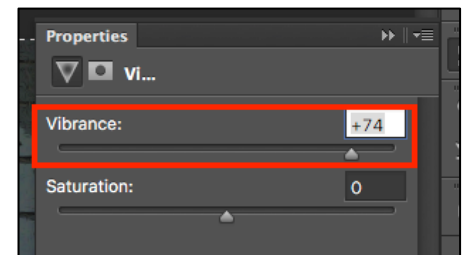
This blends the layers together, keeping the dark lines and changing your image to be in full colour

Then deal with the colours

15. **IMPORTANT:** click back on the **Background layer** in the layer stack
16. Click **Layer** > **Duplicate Layer** > call the new layer **Colours** > **OK**
17. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure you're now clicked on the **Colours layer**
18. Click **Filter** > **Filter Gallery** > **Poster Edges** – set the sliders to **0 0 2**
19. Click **Filter** > **Stylise** > **Oil Paint** > **OK**

Adjust the vibrance

20. **Layer** > **New Adjustment Layer** > **Vibrance** > click **OK** when the pop up box appears
21. Increase the **Vibrance slider** (**NOT** the saturation). Try taking it most of the way over towards the right
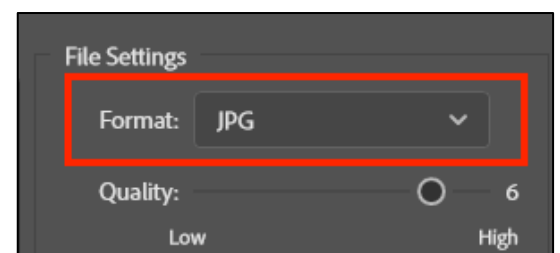
Merge the layers

Once you think you're done, merge the layers to get everything on a single layer.

22. **Layer** > **Merge Visible**
23. **File** > **Save As** > save your work **WITH A NEW NAME**. This will save it as a Photoshop file (a PSD file type)

To use the file you'll need to **export it** as well:

24. **File** > **Export** > **Export as**
25. At the **top right** change the **format** drop down to **JPG** > click **Export**

Now you can add speech bubbles and other lettering to your image.