

**SUPERHEROES**

**I- Brainstorming :**

In pairs, secretly choose a superhero everybody in the class knows. Describe him/her as precisely as possible ( outfit, weapons, superpowers...) without revealing his/her identity. The others will have to guess who you are talking about.

TOOLBOX: to be completed.....

- Une cape= a cape
- Des gants= gloves
- Une toile d'araignée= a cobweb, a spider's web
- Des collants= tights
- Des crampons= crampons
- Des ventouses= suction pads
- Une combinaison= a suit
- S'agripper aux murs= to cling to walls
- Allonger son corps= to expand one's body
- Une capuche/ un capuchon= a cowl, a hood
- Un crochet= a hook

**II- Batman Begins : Listening comprehension ( chapter 15, 16 and beginning of 18)  
Chapter 15:**

List the 3 different objects Batman is presented with at the beginning :

- .....
- ..... grapple.....
- the ..... pound .....

What are the different characteristics of the suit:

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

How much does it cost? Complete the following sentence:

"Bean counters didn't think a soldier's life was worth..... "

What does Batman pretend he wants the suit for?

In the cave:

Alfred's anecdote about Batman's great great grandfather:

CIVILISATION: What do you know about the Civil War?

Why is Batman painting his suit?

What do they say about his cowl and his "ears"?

Countries:

Assembling:

Orders:

**Chapter 16:**

What sport does Batman pretend to practise?

What material is he looking for?

What does "Morgan Freeman" present him with? How does it function?

Pick out as much information as you can on the car:

Is Batman interested in it? Why? ( what does he say?):

**Chapter 18:**

Listen to the two men's conversation, what can you say about Gotham City?

What's wrong with Batman's mask?

Comments and information: ( add whatever you want, questions about sth you didn't understand, extra information.....)

### III- READING COMPREHENSION:

#### Quantum superheroes: The science of Watchmen

Adapted from New Scientist

- 03 March 2009 by [Rowan Hooper and Sumit Paul-Choudhury](#)

It's 1985. Nixon's still in the White House and Zeppelins fill the sky. And a group of costumed heroes have come out of retirement to unravel a mystery that starts with the brutal slaying of a former colleague and ends with... well, that'd be telling.

This is the alternate world of the new movie *Watchmen* - a world populated by ordinary people who do extraordinary things, and one extraordinary person who has forgotten what it's like to be ordinary.

That person is Dr Manhattan whose body is destroyed by an "intrinsic field subtractor" before he somehow learns to reconstruct himself as an omniscient blue giant who can teleport, [replicate himself](#), [manipulate objects using only his mind](#), and see through time. He's basically a giant Smurf with spooky quantum powers.

#### Not impossible but...

Teleportation, for example, is currently impossible on a macroscopic scale, but researchers are making progress. It's been possible to teleport the quantum states of photons from one side of a lab to another for some time, but earlier this year, researchers succeeded in [teleporting information about the state of an ytterbium ion](#). Physicist Michio Kaku, of the City University of New York, now says macro teleportation may be [only a "class I impossibility"](#) - something that requires sophisticated engineering, rather than rewriting the laws of physics.

Dr Manhattan can also see into the past and future, making him somewhat indifferent about the fate of lesser mortals, which he believes to be predetermined. (He's in some ways a caricature: the aloof scientist for whom the pursuit of pure knowledge trumps all human considerations.) Given how [poorly we understand time](#), it'd be a mistake to write this off as pure fantasy - it sounds a little like the world envisaged by independent physicist [Julian Barbour](#), in which time really is just an illusion.

#### World on the brink

Even Manhattan has his limits, however: he can't see into his own future, thanks to a flood of tachyons - theoretical particles that move faster than the speed of light, and therefore travel backwards in time. This blindness is one of the factors that persuades him to abandon his fatalism and intervene in humanity's affairs .

Humanity certainly needs the help. As in our own world, the hunt is on for a source of energy that will meet the world's growing need for [clean, safe power](#). To make matters worse, the world stands on the brink of nuclear annihilation - a threat that's considered more remote in our own world, but [certainly hasn't gone away](#).

That provides Ozymandias - the smartest man in the world - with the excuse he needs to build a chain of power generators based on Dr Manhattan's powers. Ozymandias' intellect doesn't seem to be a result of superpowers; rather, his extraordinary mental abilities are the result of extensive training .

- 1) Read the text and be ready to say something about it ( a comment, a question....)

2) The aim of this lesson is to create a superhero and to present his characteristics to the class.

**IV- OUR SUPERHERO: It's your turn!**

**Create a superhero and be ready to present him to the class:**

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:**

**/20**

Nous utilisons au moins 1 élément de la vidéo et un élément du texte dans la description de notre « superhero »	0 1 2 3 4
Nous utilisons au moins 10 mots de la toolbox ci dessous	0 1 2 3 4
Nous échangeons nos idées en anglais ( très important pour la suite car vous serez peut-être amenés à travailler avec des gens qui ne parlent pas la même langue que vous !!)	0 1 2 3 4
Notre présentation est claire ( prononciation, grammaire...)	0 1 2 3 4
Nous donnons notre avis sur notre « superhero » préféré	0 1 2 3 4

Alternating current	Particle accelerator	Pump	Valve
Switch	Lens	Sharp	Safe
	Predict	Mild	Proof
Path	Emit	Waves X Ray	Atoms
Cool	Elastic Stretch	Solar cells	To be made of
To be equipped with			