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In order to create our stop motion animation video, we started by brainstorming ideas that would align with the style of our artist Elena Opara. Elena Opara is a stop motion animation artist who created a Red Bull Commercial for a student project. We tried to model our stop motion after Elena Opara's Red Bull commercial. In the commercial, Opara used paper cut out into shapes rather than using real objects. She also uses paper, which she draws things on rather than using real objects. She often uses the cut out paper and drawing for the background and setting of her animation. However, she also uses real people in costume. I would describe Elena Opara's technique as very cartoonish and fictional rather than realistic and serious. Her technique has a whimsical side too it. In our stop motion animation, we showed Opara's style by using all paper to create our background including clouds, sun, grass, tree, as well as the characters and their clothes. We printed apples and a dog because it was difficult to cut these out of paper. We showed Opara's style by mimicking her cartoonish whimsical style. Another way we showed Opara's style was by bringing in real people like she did. For the ending of our project we used cut out pictures of Abby and me. One thing that went very well in our project was the story we told in the stop animation. The message we were trying to convey is that there is always a silver lining to everything, and anyone can find love. This is demonstrated as we see a man and a woman in love but then the man falls in love with another woman, and leaves his original girlfriend behind. The stage turns dark and stormy as the man kicks his girlfriend to the curb. We see the woman left behind very sad and upset, as the grey clouds come in and the sun is covered. It begins raining and thundering until a dog comes along and makes her feel special and happy again. The sky clears up. Another thing that worked really well was the sound. While the woman and man were walking happily through the stage, we inserted happy whimsical music. As the other woman entered the scene, we had thunder rolling in. As the dark cloud rolled in and it began to rain, we inserted rain and thunder noises. When the woman found happiness again with the dog, we returned to the same happy whimsical music. The sound really enhanced our project and made the message of the story clearer. One thing that didn't work very well was keeping the camera still. No matter how hard we tried, it was very difficult to keep continuity. Often times the camera will shift and you can see the white background. For the opening sequence we chose to film ourselves discussing Elena Opara and our style. This supported and enhanced our stop motion animation because the viewer will be able to understand better the purpose of our stop motion and what we were trying to achieve by creating the stop motion animation. For the closing sequence we chose to have our faces come in and a thought bubble grow saying "the end". This really enhanced our project because it showed that the style of Elena Opara because she too uses real people in her work. Overall, our video was very successful. All created and gathered elements including images, sound, graphics, and video was fluid, logical, and arranged into a coherent sequence. It included a compelling story about the artist and their work and accurately and lined up with the artists style.