Introduction to Photoshop Assignment 6: Working with Text

Due Wednesday March 30th by 11:59 PM

Upload to Google Drive folder Introduction to Photoshop → Assignment Uploads (Face to Face / Web) → Your folder in format of Lastname_FirstInitial (e.g., Doe_Jane)

What you will turn in:
1. Photoshop files with the following naming convention: Lastname_FirstInitial_Lesson6(a/b).psd
Example: Doe_J_Lesson6a.psd
2. A single text file associated with the two Photoshop files with the following naming convention:
Lastname_FirstInitial_Lesson6.txt (example: Doe_J_Lesson6.txt)

Conventions Used throughout the assignments:
Keyboard commands are placed between less than / greater than signs and brackets, e.g., <[ ]>
Mac command key (cmnd) = Windows control key (ctrl)
Mac option key (opt) = Windows alt key (alt)
Keyboard commands are shown for both Mac/Windows, e.g., <[cmnd /ctrl+o]> means:
"On Mac do a command+o key sequence / On Windows do a control+o key sequence"
Actions that you are to do start with a "==>" sequence (no quotes)
"Menu" indicates a command selected from using the corresponding Menu sequence

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1) Start Photoshop
If not already set up, have Photoshop record all activities to an external text file - see the following set of instructions or watch the tutorial on how to start the History Log:

On Mac
==> Apple Icon: Photoshop → Preferences → General
==> Make sure that the "History Log" is checked
==> Make sure that "Save Log Items To..." is set to "Text File"
==> Set the name of the output text file: Lastname_FirstInitial_Lesson6.txt
(example: Doe_J_Lesson6.txt)
(You can also rename the file at the OS level when done with assignment)
==> Make sure that "Edit Log Items" is set to "Concise"

On PC
==> Menu: Edit → Preferences → General
(Follow same set up instructions as for Mac above)

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Lesson A: Type Mask

1) Open a file that you have downloaded from the Internet or one that you have on your computer. Select the Horizontal Type Mask tool <[t]>.

2) Click on the image, you will get "Lorem ipsum" in a box and the image will be overlaid with the gray of a mask. Type in some text. Click on the folder icon in the option bar and bring up the character panel; in the font size field, change the number to a fairly big value (120 - 144 points) depending upon how much text you've entered.

3) When you've finished entering the text, click on any of the selection tools. The gray mask will go away and you're left with the type as a selection. If you put the mouse cursor into the selection, it will change to a little open arrow with a rectangle — you can now move this text about and reposition it.

4) When you have the text where you want it, do a <[cmnd / ctrl+j]> to create a new layer from the selection. Unless you move the selection, or hide the background layer, you won't see the rasterized type layer since it will be exactly above the background layer where the selection was made. On this new layer select a layer style such as bevel and emboss, shadow (either drop or inner), glow (inner or outer), or stroke to differentiate the text from the background. Given that this type layer is rasterized (converted to pixels) means that you can also run filters on this layer.

5) Close this file. Make the file active and then do:
==> Menu: File → Close or Keyboard: <[cmnd /ctrl+w]>
If you get a dialog box about saving changes, answer "Don't save".
When the dialog box comes up: Save As... → Lastname_InitialFirstName_Lesson6a.psd
Make sure that Format is selected to "Photoshop"
Make sure that "Layers" is checked under the "Save:" options
Color options don't matter
Click on Save

Lesson B: Clipping layers with type

Earlier in the semester you were introduced to clipping layers. One of the good uses for clipping layers is to use it with a type layer. The nice thing is that the type layer is still editable so you can change the text.

1) Open a file that you have downloaded from the Internet or one that you have on your computer. Duplicate this layer <[cmnd / ctrl+j]>.

2) Select the horizontal type tool <[t]>. Change the font to Verdana, size of 24, center justify, color doesn't matter since when you make the clipping layer the text will take on the image. You will probably be altering the size of the type, so starting out small isn't a bad idea.

3) Type in some text.

4) Make sure that the type layer is between the background layer and the copy of the background layer (if not, move the layer so that it is between the two). Holding down the <[option / alt]> key, move the cursor so that it is between the background copy layer and the type layer until you see a downward pointing arrow next to a box symbol and then click. The background copy layer should indent with a downward pointing arrow symbol indicating that it is being clipped by the type layer.

5) As with the type layer mask, you don't immediately see the difference because the background layer and the clipped layer are identical in positioning. You can:
   • Do a layer style on the type layer to make the clipping visible (hint: use outer and inner glows)

   • Make a new layer between the type layer and the background layer and fill this in with a color such as black or white. If you use black you might need to still do a layer style on the type layer to make the letters more visible.

6) Because the type layer has not been rasterized, it is still a type layer and therefore editable with the type tool. Double click on the T icon in the layer panel to select the text, move the cursor into the text area on the canvas, and edit it. You can bring up the character panel to change font size, style, horizontal and/or vertical sizing, etc.

7) Close this file. Make the file active and then do:
==> Menu: File → Close or Keyboard: <[cmnd /ctrl+w]>
If you get a dialog box about saving changes, answer "Don't save".
When the dialog box comes up: Save As... → Lastname_InitialFirstName_Lesson6b.psd
Make sure that Format is selected to "Photoshop"
Make sure that "Layers" is checked under the "Save:" options
Color options don't matter
Click on Save

8) Quit Photoshop
==> A) On Mac: Photoshop → Quit Photoshop or Keyboard: <[cmnd+q]>
==> B) On PC: File → Exit or Keyboard: <[ctrl+q]>

In this lesson you have learned:

1. How to use type to create a non-editable mask.
2. How to use type to clip an image; the type layer remains editable.