

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xn3ZwylV3bs>

Science experiment with Professor Robert Winston

## Text B

**Pakistan Man:** A stint with the [extra] ordinary By Jahanzaib Haque (Published: November 17, 2013)

the latest comic superhero to emerge as part of a growing trend of comics spilling over from the virtual world into print. Dubbed Pakistan's first superhero, a claim some in the local community of amateur illustrators would dispute, Pakistan Man is the brainchild of 24-year-old Hassan Siddiqui. The comic is the logical culmination of a childhood passion for drawing cartoons. The road to Pakistan Man, however, was paved on Facebook.

While most of Siddiqui's cartoons were simple one-liners or two to three panel affairs on local politics and culture, the young illustrator and writer decided to work on a larger creative project around a local superhero, an idea he had first conceived in college.

The first issue of the comic is a fairly simple origin story\* though its message is somewhat convoluted, something that perhaps unintentionally reflects the real issue of existing conflicting narratives about Pakistan and national identity.

The son of poor parents, Pakistan Man assumes his heroic avatar after a chance encounter with Sultan Rahi, who later becomes his mentor. After five years of rigorous training and armed with a superhero costume and the ability to fly, he is ready to save Pakistan as instructed by Sultan Rahi.

The drawings are basic, the inking is digital and the plot is predictable, but this is perhaps necessary for an origin story. "Pakistan Man is meant to represent the Pakistani people, showing how anyone can become a superhero," Siddiqui explains.

The young creator points out that one of the biggest challenges to drawing comics in Pakistan is trying to tackle issues without offending people. The lack of knowledge about comic books as an alternate form of creative expression does not help the situation either. Fortunately, the challenge of finding a publisher for the comic was bypassed by going down the self-publishing route.

[ – X – ] Pakistan Man sees a second or third issue, or ends 16 pages long, depends on how the current version fares with the audience. [ – 13 – ], while the dedication to publishing comics in the face of multiple hurdles is impressive, at the end of the day, Pakistan Man offers [ – 14 – ] that is not amateur or already seen before. The plot is [ – 15 – ], while the writing and jokes are childish and [ – 16 – ] to appeal to anyone over the age of 15. If our man with the cloak does return, he'll [ – 17 – ] work on his one-liners more than his punches. Adapted from Jahanzaib Haque, The Express Tribune (2013)

**Text B — Pakistan Man: A stint with the [extra] ordinary**

Match the first part of the sentence with the appropriate ending on the right. Write the appropriate letter in the boxes provided.

**Example:** *Pakistan Man* first...

**E**

6. According to some illustrators, *Pakistan Man*...

7. Siddiqui thought of creating *Pakistan Man* when he...

8. The underlying message of the first *Pakistan Man* issue...

9. *Pakistan Man*'s first meeting with Sultan Rahi...

**A.** led to his evolution into a superhero.

**B.** was at university.

**C.** is largely amateurish.

**D.** was 24 years old.

**E.** **appeared online.**

**F.** is not Pakistan's first superhero.

**G.** is the first comic to originate in Pakistan.

**H.** mirrored current dilemmas in Pakistan.

**I.** helped Siddiqui hone his art.

**J.** explained the superhero's origins.

Answer the following questions.

10. What does Siddiqui hope *Pakistan Man* would demonstrate?

.....

11. Which phrase between **lines 20 and 26** is used to describe comic books?

.....

12. How did Siddiqui overcome the challenge of finding a publisher for his comic book?

.....

Which words go in the gaps between **lines 27 and 32**? Choose the words from the list and write them in the spaces below.

- |             |        |           |      |               |                |
|-------------|--------|-----------|------|---------------|----------------|
| FORTUNATELY | LITTLE | SEAMLESS  | MUCH | TIRED         | UNLIKELY       |
| HOPEFULLY   | ONCE   | SIMILARLY | SURE | UNFORTUNATELY | <b>WHETHER</b> |

**Example: [ - X - ]** ..... **whether** .....

13. [ - 13 - ]

14. [ - 14 - ]

15. [ - 15 - ]

16. [ - 16 - ]

17. [ - 17 - ]