

> portrait correction

> objective(s):

Students will digitally touch up a portrait of a person, including correcting for color and contrast, whitening teeth and eyes, and correcting blemishes and wrinkles.

> curricular focus:

This lesson emphasizes the use of Levels and Color Balance to correctly expose a photo. It also emphasizes the use of the Healing Brush to correct skin blemishes as well as the Dodge brush to lighten teeth and sclera (eyes).

> specifications:

save as: Portrait Correction_LastnameF (F stands for initial of first name; for example: _MattinglyJ)
dimensions: original- 8"x10"; finished project 16"x10" (altered image will appear side by side with original)
resolution: 300
mode: RGB
contents: Transparent

> instruction:

- introduction to Adjustment Layers
 - watch How to Use Adjustment Layers in Photoshop video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUv7npHOk7E>)
 - learn Adjustment Layer fundamentals (0:30-3:10)
 - what is an Adjustment Layer?
 - how to create an Adjustment Layer
 - how to Hide and Show or adjust Opacity
 - note: we are not using Brightness/Contrast
 - learn how to use Levels (at 3:11)
 - adjust the pyramids in the histogram to improve value contrast
 - move black and white pyramids to the bottom of the "mountains"
 - learn how to use Color Balance (at 13:21)
 - adjust the sliders to compensate for color casting
 - you do not need to learn or practice any other adjustment at this time
 - how to assign an Adjustment Layer to a specific layer
 - right-click on the Adjustment Layer and select Create Clipping Mask
- introduction to Healing Brush
 - the healing Brush takes a digitallly blends a sample area with a desired relocation area to remove blemishes
 - select the target area from which you want to sample (Alt+Click)
 - your target selection should be another area that closely resembles where you need to repair
 - this is usually very near the blemish you wish to fix
 - brush over the area that needs repairing and check the results to see if it worked properly
 - for more severe repairs, sample from various areas, not just one
 - if you don't, you will start to see a detectable pattern which is BAD
- review Dodge brush (used to lighten color)
 - set brush size and hardness (usually 0 or very low)
 - set Exposure (the higher the Exposure value the faster the brush will lighten)
- review Burn brush (used to darken color)
 - set brush size and hardness (usually 0 or very low)
 - set Exposure (the higher the Exposure value the faster the brush will darken)

see procedure on page 2

> portrait correction

original



cropped



expanded canvas



duplicated original



color correction



contrast correction



> procedure:

- take a photo of yourself indoors
 - take in front of plain white/light colored background
 - be well lit (use flash, have lighting nearby)
 - download image from camera
 - name as Portrait Correction Original_LastnameF
- crop image
 - open Portrait Correction Original_LastnameF in Photoshop
 - if needed, rotate photo so head is vertical
 - go to Image: Rotate Canvas
 - select Crop tool from the Toolbar
 - set dimensions in top Options bar to Width: 8 in | Height: 10 in | Resolution 300
 - crop image like a traditional school portrait (see example crop)
 - allow some space between top of hair and top of frame so head is not crowded
 - include some shoulder so you do not have a "floating head"
 - center visual weight
 - approve crop with instructor
- duplicate portrait for side-by-side comparison
 - rename layer as Original
 - unlock Background layer by double clicking on the layer
 - in the dialog box rename the layer as Original
 - expand canvas
 - go to Image: Canvas Size
 - change width to 16 in
 - select left-middle box so the document expands outward to the right
 - when you press OK it will create an empty area to the right
 - duplicate Original layer
 - go to Layer menu (at top) and select Duplicate Layer
 - or go into sub menu of Layer window and select Duplicate Layer
 - or drag layer over New Layer icon at bottom of Layer window
 - rename duplicate layer as Alteration
 - move the Alteration layer to the right until it snaps correctly to the left frame edges
 - make sure Snap to Document is selected
 - go to View and make sure Sanp is checked, then go back to View menu and make sure all items in Snap To are checked
- adjust brightness and contrast (see Contrast Correction tutorial on page 4)
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Auto Levels (Shift+Ctrl+L)
 - toggle this step in your History palette to decide if this is an improvement or not
 - if Auto Levels does not work, do this manually by going to Levels (Ctrl + L)
 - try moving black and white pyramids to base of the "mountain"
 - adjust gray pyramid (midtones) accordingly
- color correct (see Color Correction tutorial on page 5)
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Auto Color (Shift+Ctrl+B)
 - toggle this step in your History palette to decide if this is an improvement or not
 - if Auto Color does not work, do this manually by going to Color Balance (Ctrl + B)
 - adjust sliders until image color looking realistic
 - if you have taken Digital Photo you may try custom adjustments if you remember how
- approve contrast and color balance correction with instructor

continued on page 3

> portrait correction

- correct for major blemishes
 - important!
 - blemishes are temporary skin marks like acne, scratch or piece of fuzz
 - blemishes are NOT permanent parts of your skin like freckles, birth marks, moles, etc.
 - those things make you unique and who you are and should not be erased
 - select Healing Brush from the toolbar
 - do NOT use Spot Healing Brush
 - set the brush Size to slightly larger than the blemish itself
 - set the brush Hardness to 0%
 - select an area near the blemish to copy from
 - press Alt on your keyboard to select that area
 - when you press Alt you should see a target for selecting
 - brush over blemish
 - make sure you are no longer pressing Alt
 - when you let go, the copied pixels should blend with the existing blemish pixels and make it disappear
- use Dodge Brush to whiten teeth and brighten eyes (if needed)
 - duplicate your Alteration layer to protect your previous work
 - it will automatically be named Alteration copy which is okay
 - set your Range to Highlights and your Exposure very low (approximately 10%)
 - carefully brush over desired area
 - be careful not to go over where you have already brushed
 - do not overdo it or your image will look fake!

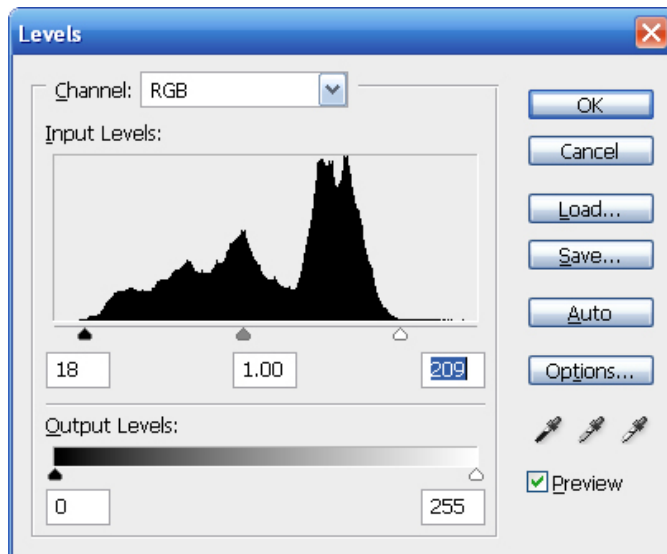
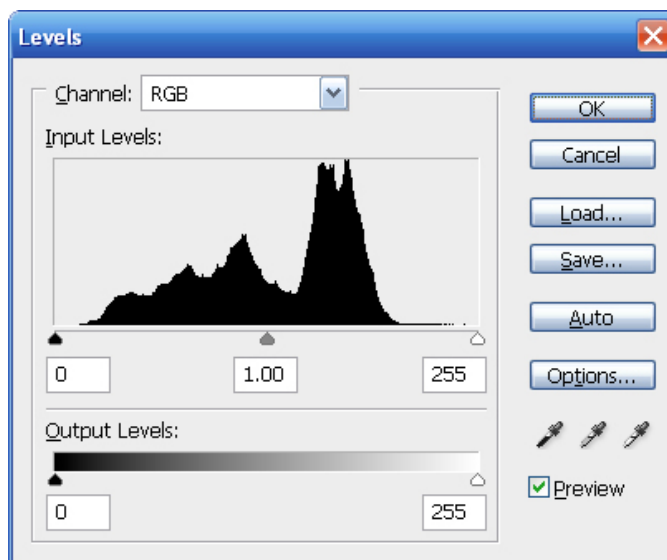
> requirements:

- all document specifications are adhered to
- image is properly adjusted for contrast
- image is properly adjusted for color balance
- all significant blemishes and wrinkles are accurately reduced/removed
 - teacher discretion (check with me)

> contrast correction

> adjust image contrast

- first try auto correcting
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Auto Levels (Shift + Ctrl + L)
 - evaluate the result by comparing before and after by pressing Undo (Ctrl +Z)
 - if it is a drastic improvement, Save (Ctrl +S) and move on to Color Balance
 - if it is not a drastic improvement, Undo and perform manually (see below)
- manual contrast correction
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Levels (Ctrl + L)
 - evaluate the Histogram
 - a histogram is a bar graph showing the amount of darks, midtones and highlights
 - move the black and white "pyramids" to the "base of the mountain"
 - place them where the bar graph starts to ascend (see below)
 - move the gray (midtone) pyramid (most likely left) to adjust the overall lightness
 - do not overadjust (see below)



> color correction

> adjust image color

- first try auto correcting
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Auto Color (Shift +Ctrl + B)
 - evaluate the result by comparing before and after by pressing Undo (Ctrl +Z)
 - if it is a drastic improvement, approve with instructor and Save (Ctrl +S)
 - if it is not a drastic improvement, Undo and perform manually (see below)
 - remember, you are trying to get the color as realistic as possible
 - Auto Color usually overcorrects so expect to have to do this manually
- manual color correction
 - evaluate your image
 - is it too yellow?
 - too pink?
 - too green?
 - too blue?
 - go to Image: Adjustments: Color Balance (Ctrl + B)
 - use the Color Balance slider to compensate for incorrect color cast
 - Cyan, Magenta and Yellow (left) are opposite Red, Green and Blue (right)
 - example: if your image is too pink, move the middle slider slightly toward green
 - most adjustments are minor (rarely more than +/-20 either way)
 - remember to check and uncheck Preview to compare before and after
 - do not overcorrect!

