ASSIGNMENT 4

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Symbols

A symbol is an art object that you can reuse in a document. For example, if you create a symbol from a flower, you can then add instances of that symbol multiple times to your artwork without actually adding the complex art multiple times. Symbols are elements, predefined shapes that can be used in Illustrator. Listed in the Symbols panel, these shapes can have multiple occurrences in a document. It is

possible to modify them or create new ones easily.

Symbol libraries

To open a symbol library, click the icon in the lower left corner of the panel and choose a theme. A new panel with many symbols will then appear. You can easily switch between themes using the two navigation arrows at the bottom of the panel.

Symbol libraries are collections of preset symbols. When you open a symbol library, it appears in a new panel (not the Symbols panel). You select, sort, and view items in a symbol library the same as you do in the Symbols panel. However, you can't add items to, delete items from, or edit the items in symbol libraries.

1) How will you create a new symbol and add it to the library?

    Create a symbol

1. Select the artwork you want to use as a symbol.

2. Do one of the following:

• Click the New Symbol button in the Symbols panel.

• Drag the artwork to the Symbols panel.

• Choose New Symbol from the panel menu.

3. In the Symbol Options dialog box, type a name for the symbol.

4. Select the symbol type as Movie Clip or Graphic.

5. Select the type of symbol you want to create - Dynamic or Static. The default setting is Dynamic.

6. Select the Align to Pixel Grid option to apply the pixel-align property to the symbol.

You can create symbols from most Illustrator objects, including paths, compound paths, text objects, raster images, mesh objects, and groups of objects. However, you cannot create a symbol from linked art or some groups, such as groups of graphs.

2) How will you use the appearance panel to change the property of the symbols?

The Appearance panel contains all the specifics, the elements that make up a shape. Not only does it allow you to see the components of a shape, it also allows you to adjust them as well as add or subtract from them.

How to use the appearance panel and change the property:
In the case of the shape below, we can see that the Appearance panel indicates that the shape includes an orange outline of 6 pt and a blue background, both elements having an opacity

adjustment by default (i.e. 100% in normal blending mode).

To change the colors, all you have to do is click the color square to choose a

different shade.

To change the opacity of any of the elements, click the Opacity label (orange

underlined with a dotted line), which will display an options panel including

opacity, blend modes and

a mask creation function. Likewise, click the Contour label to display the

options and

make the desired adjustments