RECODING - ANGELIQUE LEBAS
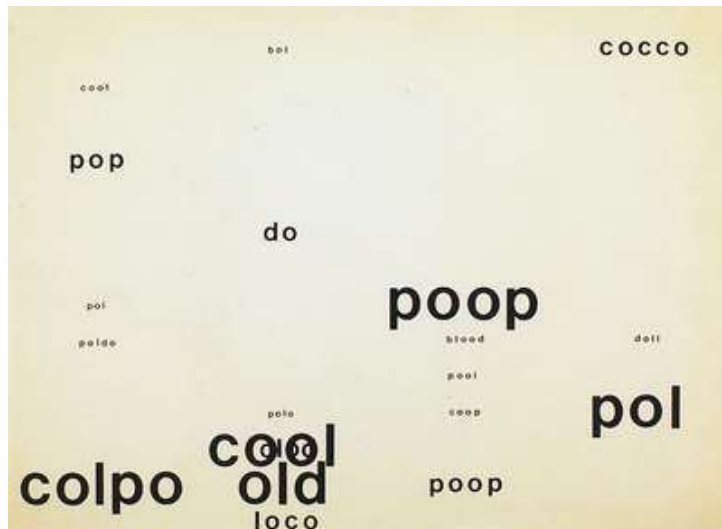
Author: Marc Adrian

Title: ct 2/66

Techniques: print, b/w, computer-aided

Dimensions: 29.7 × 40.2 cm

Year: 1966

This artwork is made up of 20 words placed on a grid of 15 rows and 4 columns. The typography used is "Helvetica", upper cases are forbidden and only three font sizes are used. The words comes from only of English (blood), French (bol), Italian (olpo) and German (pop) dictionary, and with only letters: b, d, d, l, o, p and q, and more specifically only the letters with these symbols: C, Ɔ, l. Words have not a semantic value but an aesthetic one: there are not selected for their meaning but for their graphic composition.

To accentuate this idea, I decided to extend my algorithm to creating new words, responding to the selection criteria, and giving the impression that they are findable in a dictionary. For this, first I studied the letters series frequencies for each language and then I used Markov chains for building new words based on frequencies.

I also make it possible to define custom criteria to build the final picture: number of words, colours, grid aspect, customizable characters and languages etc.

When I wrote my algorithm, I try to be closest to the original artwork but there are some differences. Marc Adrian uses linguistic dictionary English-German and French-Italian while I used independent words lists. To define the location of the word, He gives a symbol among six aleatory; personally, I defined a column and a row randomly.

You will find in the next pages several series of pictures obtained by the algorithm that I made.
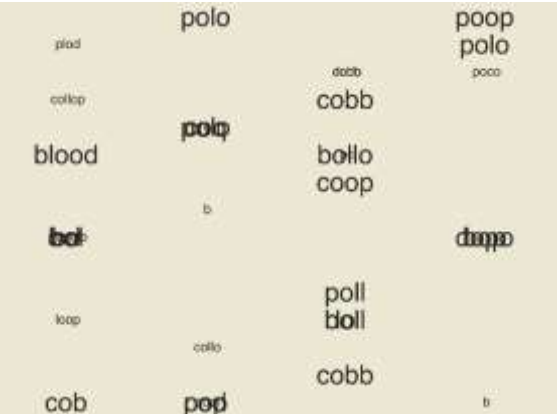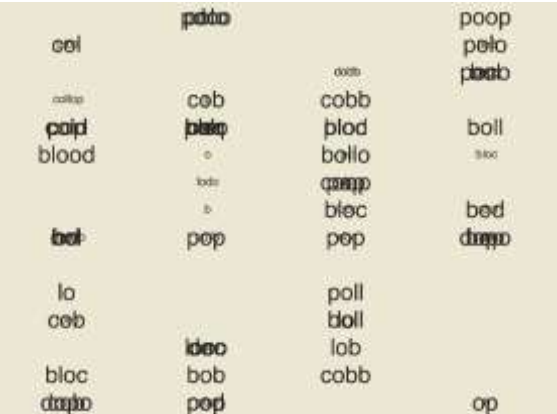
Closest to ct 2/66
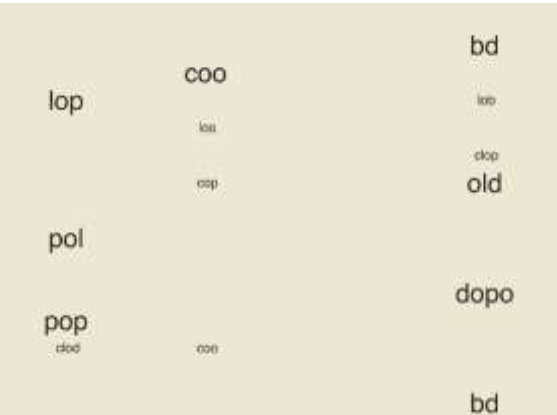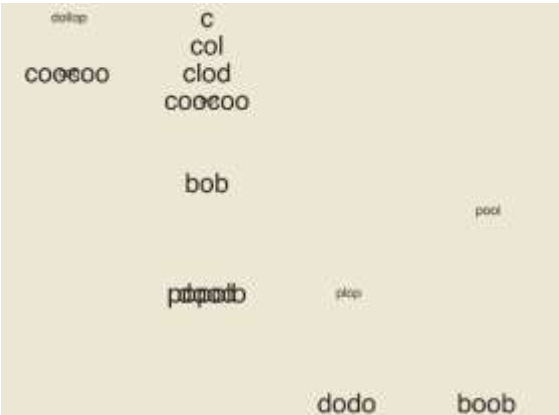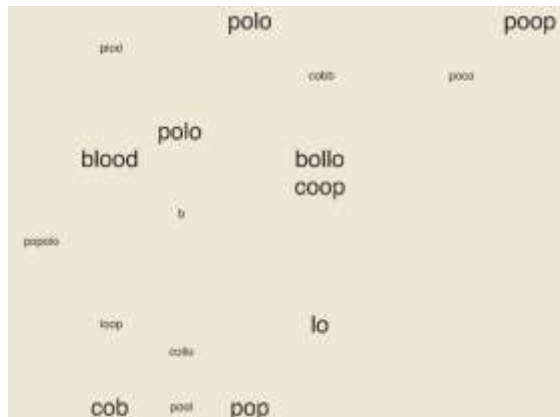

Change in number of words.
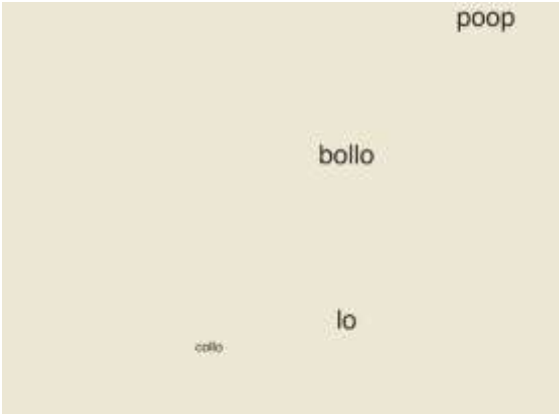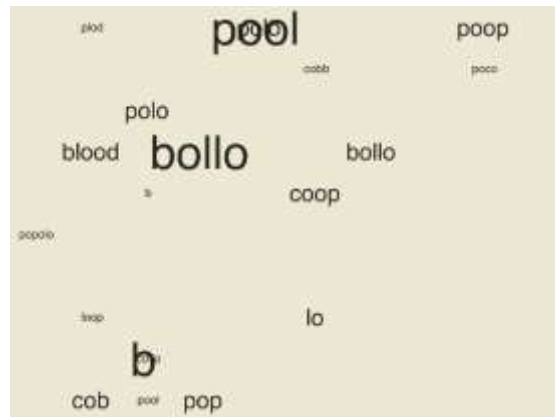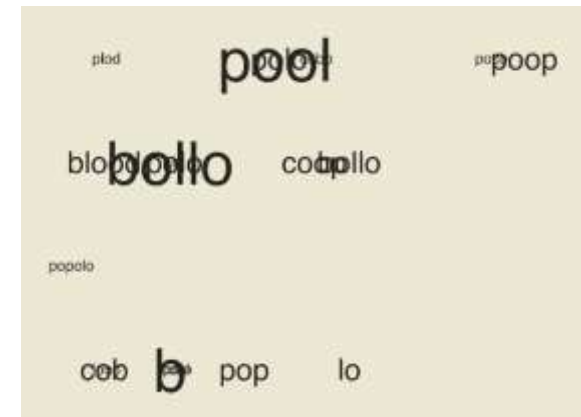

4 words | 40 words | 100 words

Change in grid.
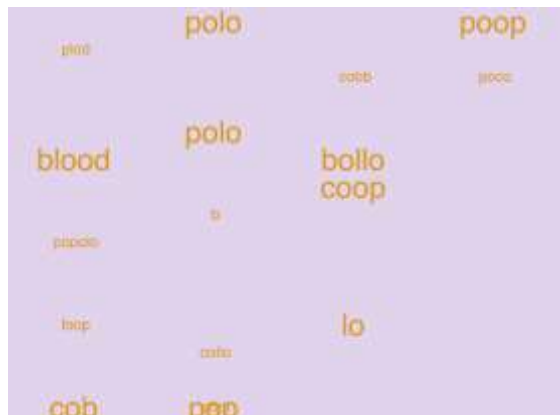

8 columns, 15 rows
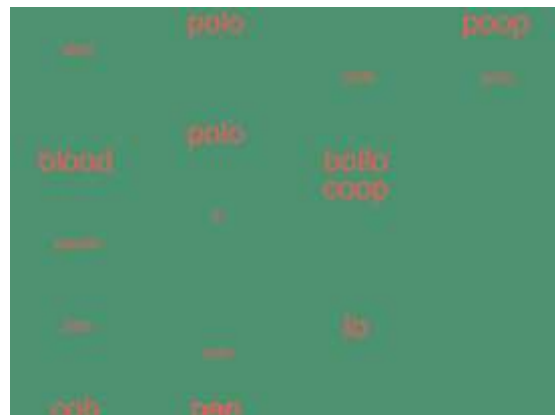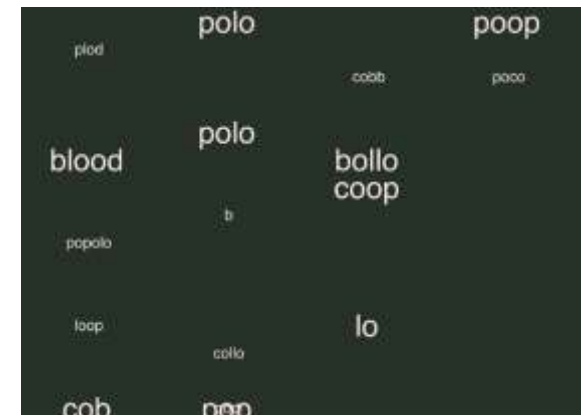

10 columns, 10 rows

16 columns, 4 rows

Change in colours.

Font: #dc9412, background: #e1d3eb

Font: #4d9372, background: #ff5656

Font: #ffecec, background: #263127

Source: https://angeli-dev.github.io/projet-p5/

Change in languages.

Italian only

English only

German only

Change in letters.

Letters: a, b, d, i, l, o, r

Letters: a, e, g, n, t

Letters: d, i, n, o, s
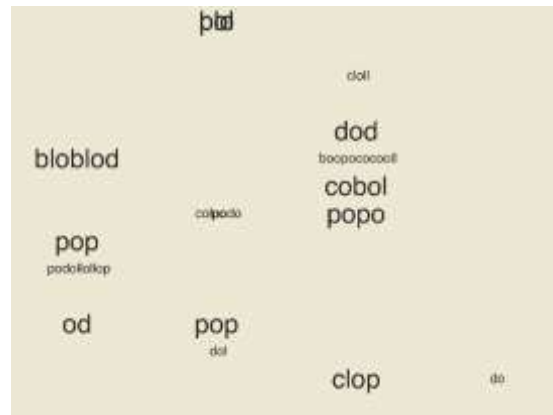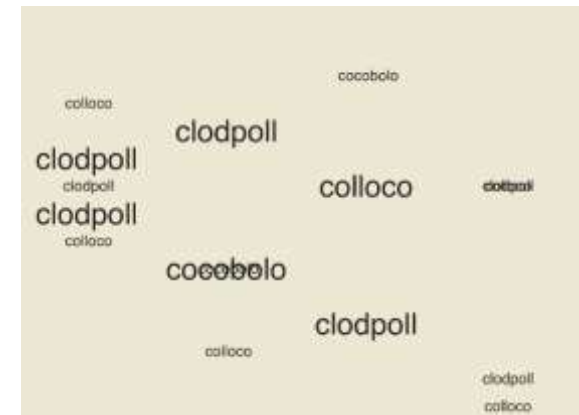
Creating of new words
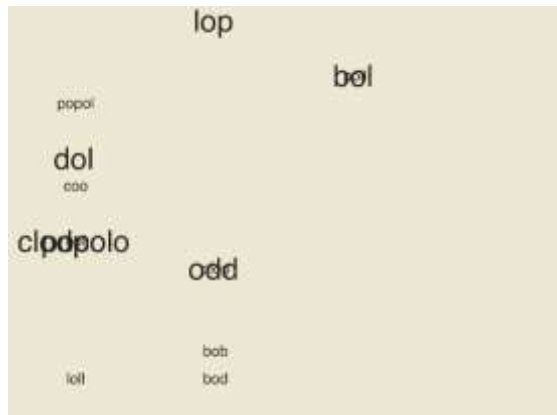
Maximal number of letters: 10
Order (precision): 3

Maximal number of letters: 10
Order (precision): 2

Maximal number of letters: 14
Order (precision): 7

Creating of new words and change in letters

Letters: a, b, d, i, l, o, r

Letters: a, e, g, n, t

Letters: d, i, n, o, s

Source : https://angeli-dev.github.io/projet-p5/

Creating of new words and change in letters.

Letters: a, b, d, i, l, o, r
Language: French

Letters: a, e, g, n, t
Language: French

Letters: d, i, n, o, s
Language: French

Letters: all
Language: French

Letters: all
Language: English

Letters: all
Language: Italian