

Graphic Image Editing

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Assessment Code: TDT1 – Task 2

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## Purpose

Task two requests the creation and editing of nine images. I've decided to create a tutorial around the online image editing tool known as Pixlr.

## Target Audience

The target audience for this task are the evaluators of this course and task. To the target audience, please be aware that I will explain the graphic editing/creation process in a step-by-step tutorial similar to the first task but this one will include screenshots to help guide you through the process of creating all the requesting images using the online image editor Pixlr.

## Graphic Editing Process

This task requests the production of nine graphics for the website/portfolio. Five of nine graphics have already been created. These include the feature graphic on the homepage and the micro-course previews. The four remaining images will be designed around the idea of applying them to future micro-courses.

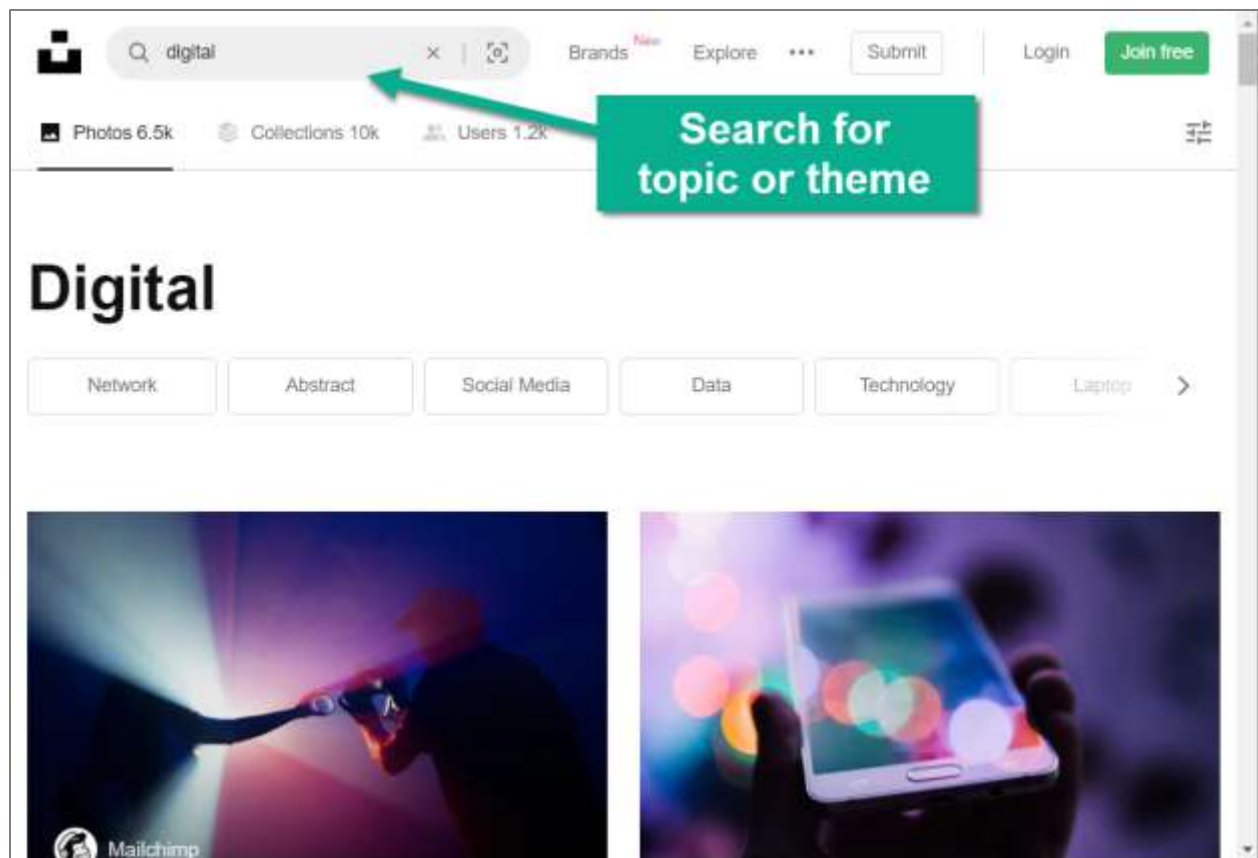
Instead of merely discussing the process of creating and editing each graphic/photo task, a tutorial covering each process will be created using screenshots and more.

## Image 1 – Digital Photo

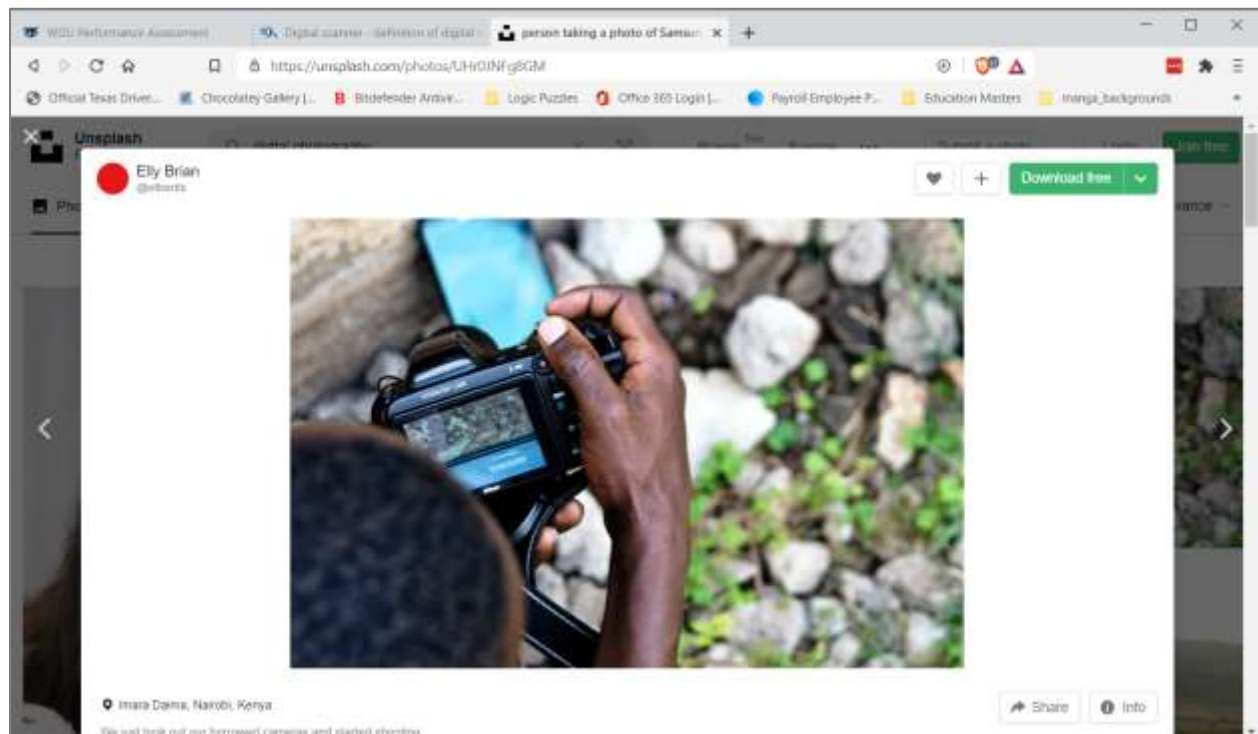
1. Start off by finding a digital photo that expresses the idea of your website.
2. A few sites you may want to look at include:
  - a. Unsplash.com
  - b. Pexels.com
  - c. Pixabay.com
3. We will working with Unsplash.com because their photos are always high resolution and absolutely stunning.

*It is important that when using someone's photo or graphic you give them the courtesy our credit in some way or form on a website or printed material if usage is allowed.*

4. On the Unsplash website search for any photo you like.

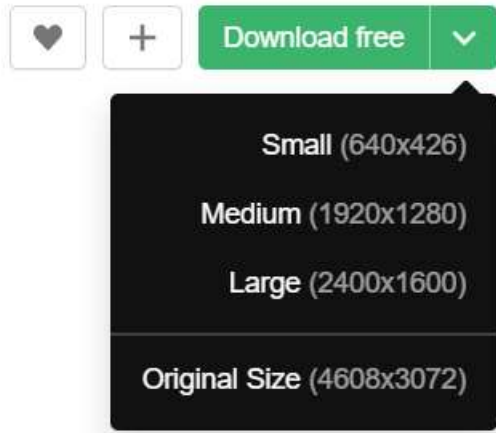


5. For this tutorial we will go with “Digital Photography”. Yes, it’s bit ironic but it works.
6. We’re choosing the following file photo by Elly Brian.

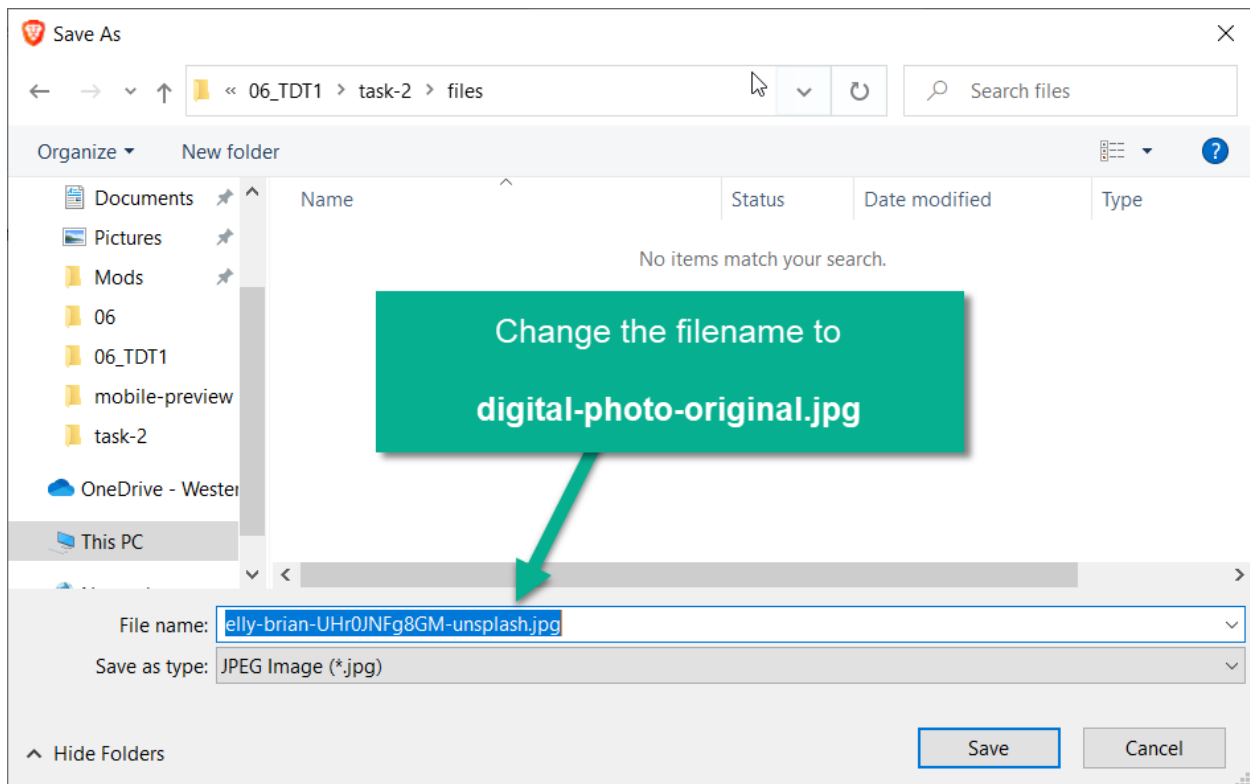


Here's the link if you want to follow along: <https://unsplash.com/photos/UHr0JNFg8GM>

7. In the top-right find the **Download free** button. Next to this button is a drop-down arrow.
8. Click the drop-down arrow to reveal multiple image sizes.



9. We'll choose the **Medium (1920 x 1280)**. That's big enough to scale down for this assignment.
10. Next, depending on your operating system and browser configuration the photo will either download or prompt you to save it.
11. If the file just downloads, find where it downloaded and rename it to **digital-photo-original**
12. If you get a prompt asking where to save it, do the same and save it where you like.



13. Next, we are tasked with resizing the image to 640 width by 480 height or smaller.

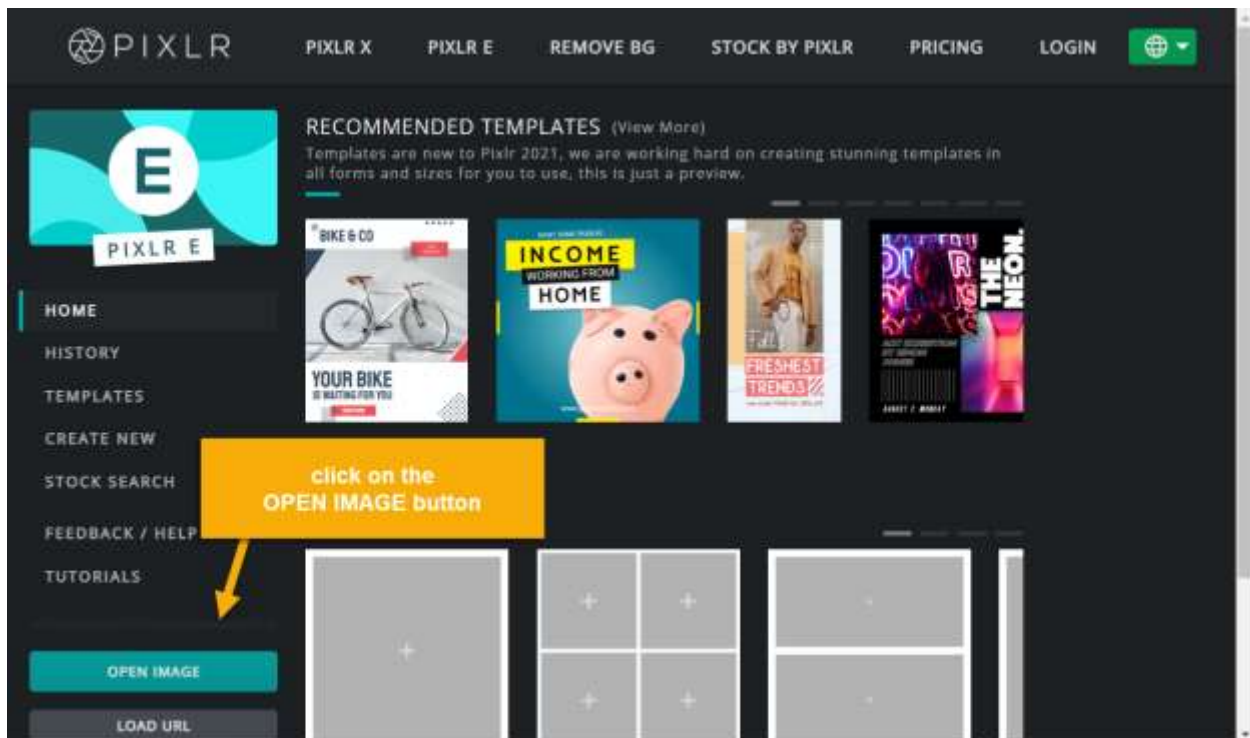
14. These exact proportions do not need to be explicitly set. Meaning if you resize the image to 640 width and your height is greater or less than 480 it's okay. As a matter of fact, it's best if only try to match either the width or the height so the image retains accurate proportions when scaling down.
15. For the task of scaling the image we will use an online photo editing program which will allow for anyone on either Windows, Mac, or Linux to complete this task.

*This guide places emphasis on desktop/laptop users with internet access.*

16. Open a browser and go to: **pixlr.com**
17. Select the **PIXLR E** option as shown below.

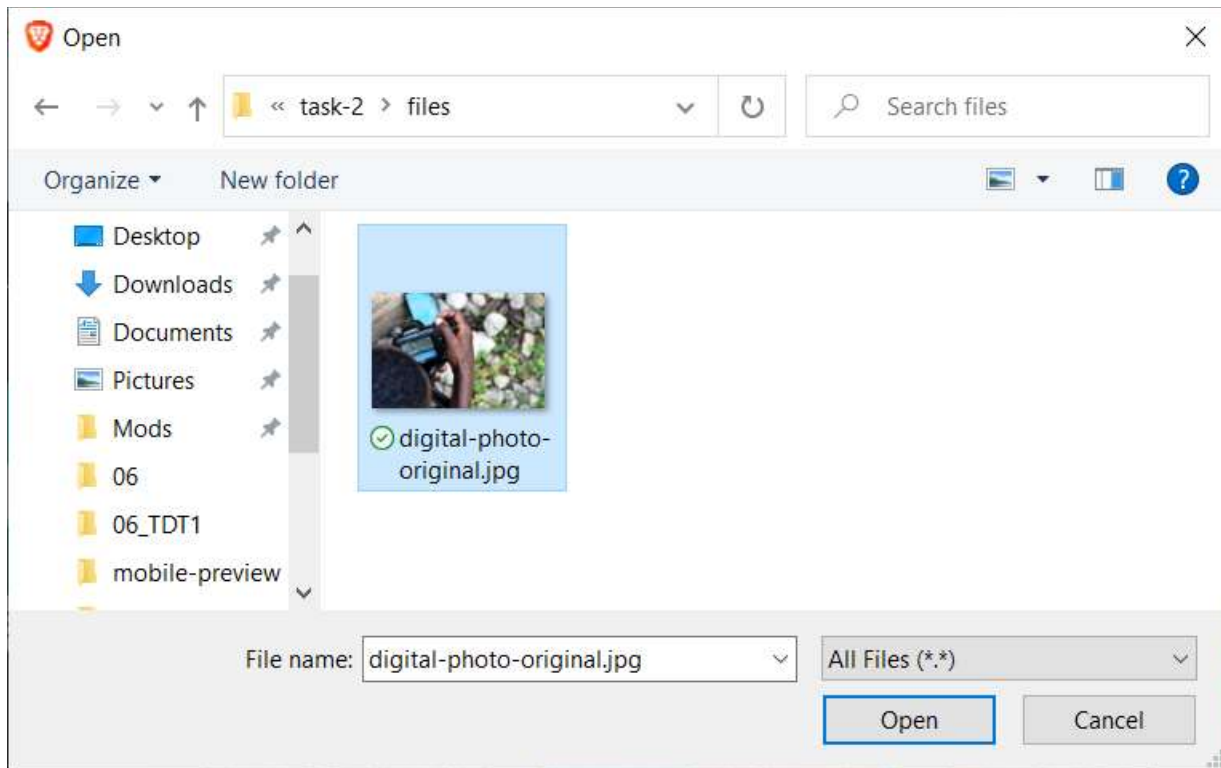


18. This will take you to the **Pixlr Photo Editor**.
19. Now click on the **OPEN IMAGE** button and find the image you just downloaded.

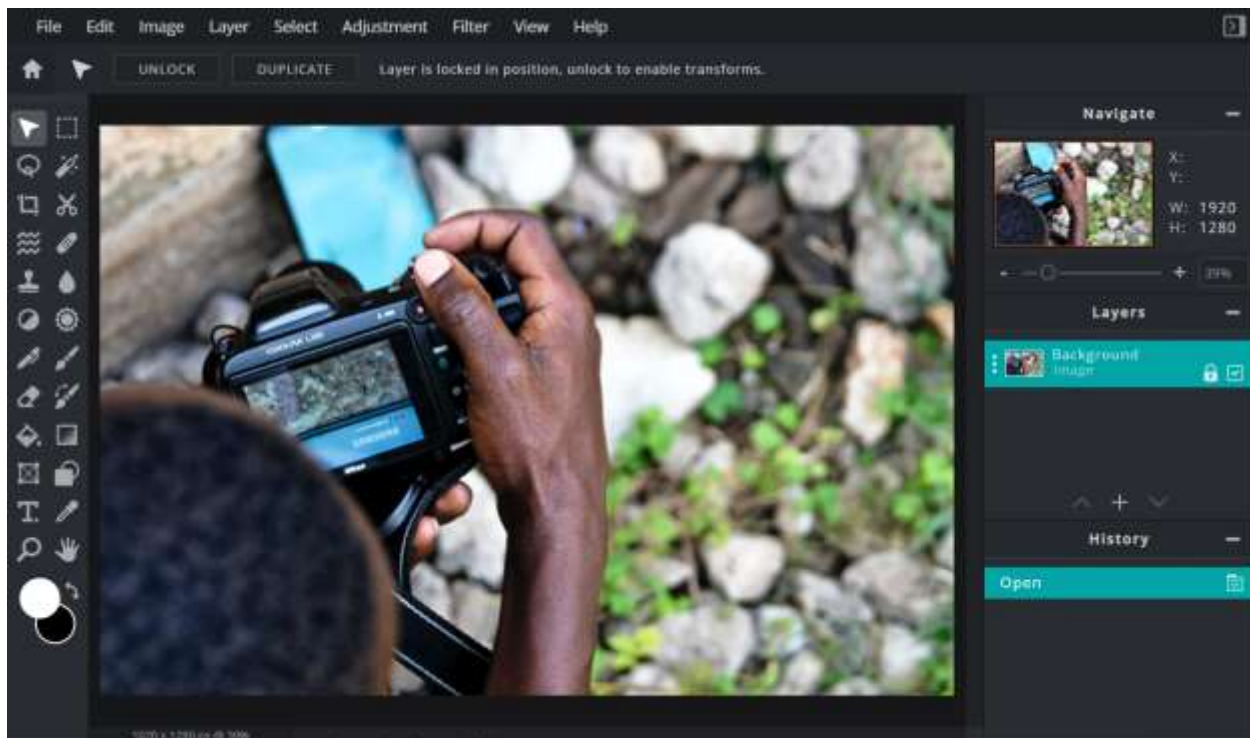


*You could have also loaded a graphic or image from a URL.*

20. Select your image file: **digital-photo-original** and click the **Open** button



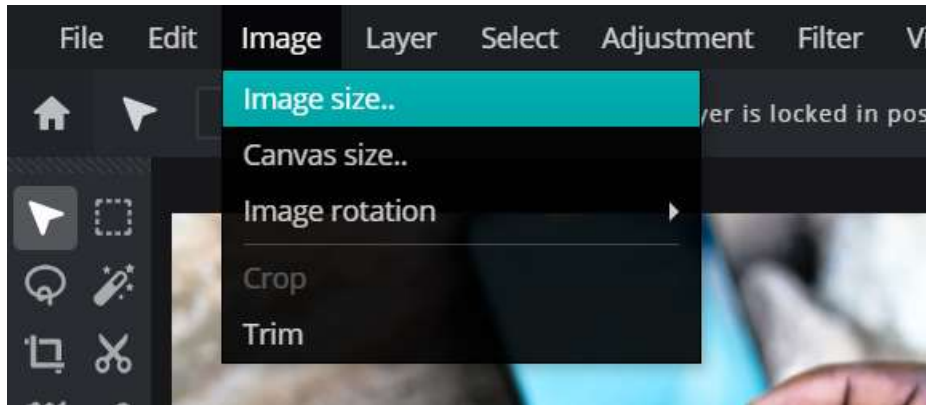
21. Your image should now be loaded into the Pixlr Editor like the preview below





22. Our next task is to resize this image to a width of 640px. By the way **px = pixels** in case you wanted to know.

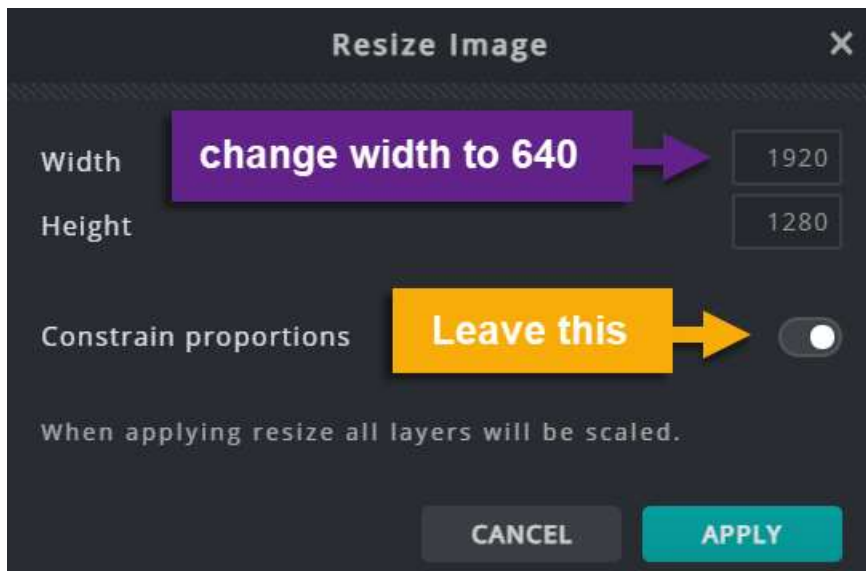
23. In the top menu of the Pixlr Editor select: **Image > Image Size**



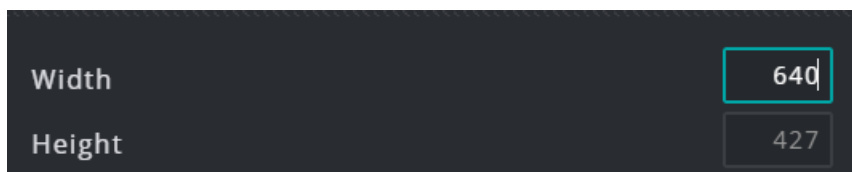
24. When the **Image Size** options pop-up change the **width** to **640**.

25. You should see the **height** automatically resize. This is because the **Constrain proportions** is enabled. This is good.

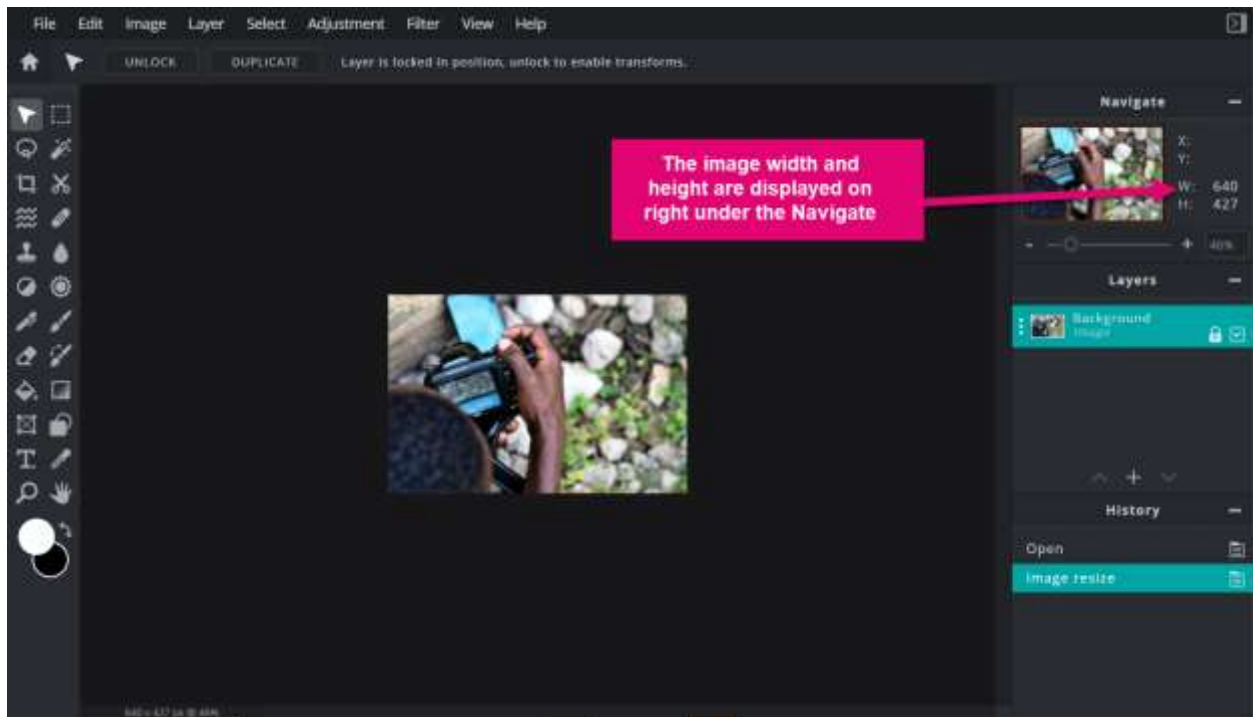
Before



After

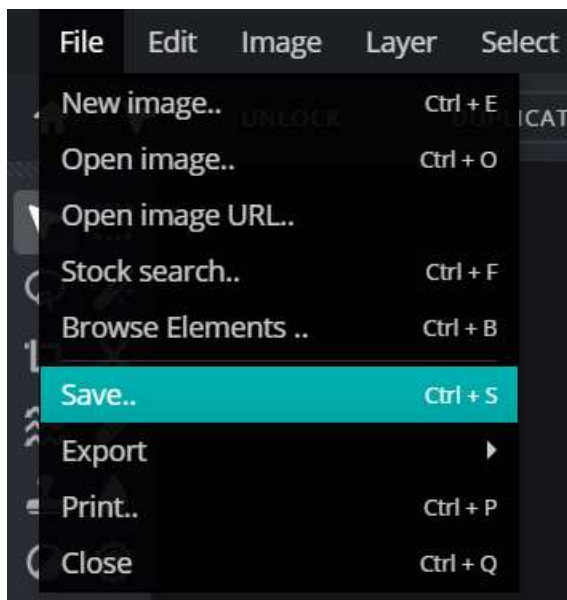


26. Click the **APPLY** button to see the image shrink.



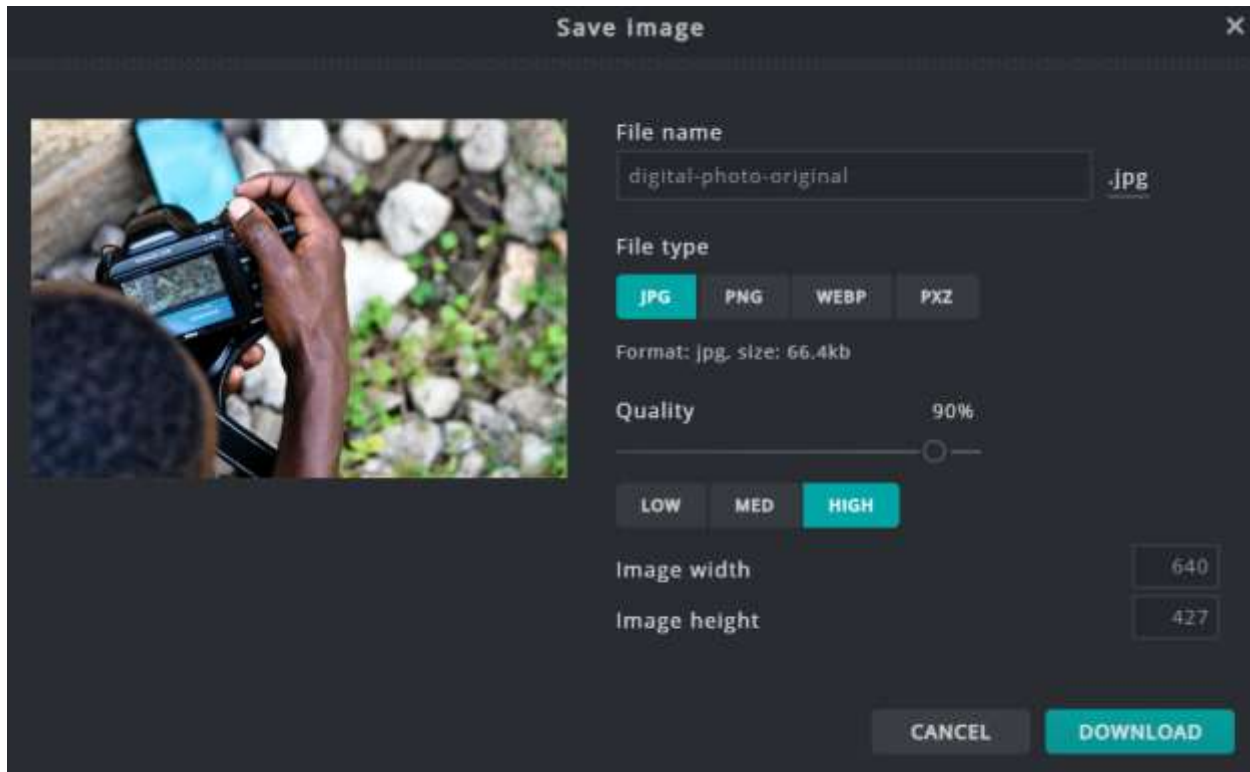
27. Now let's save the file.

28. Click on the top menu and select **File > Save**

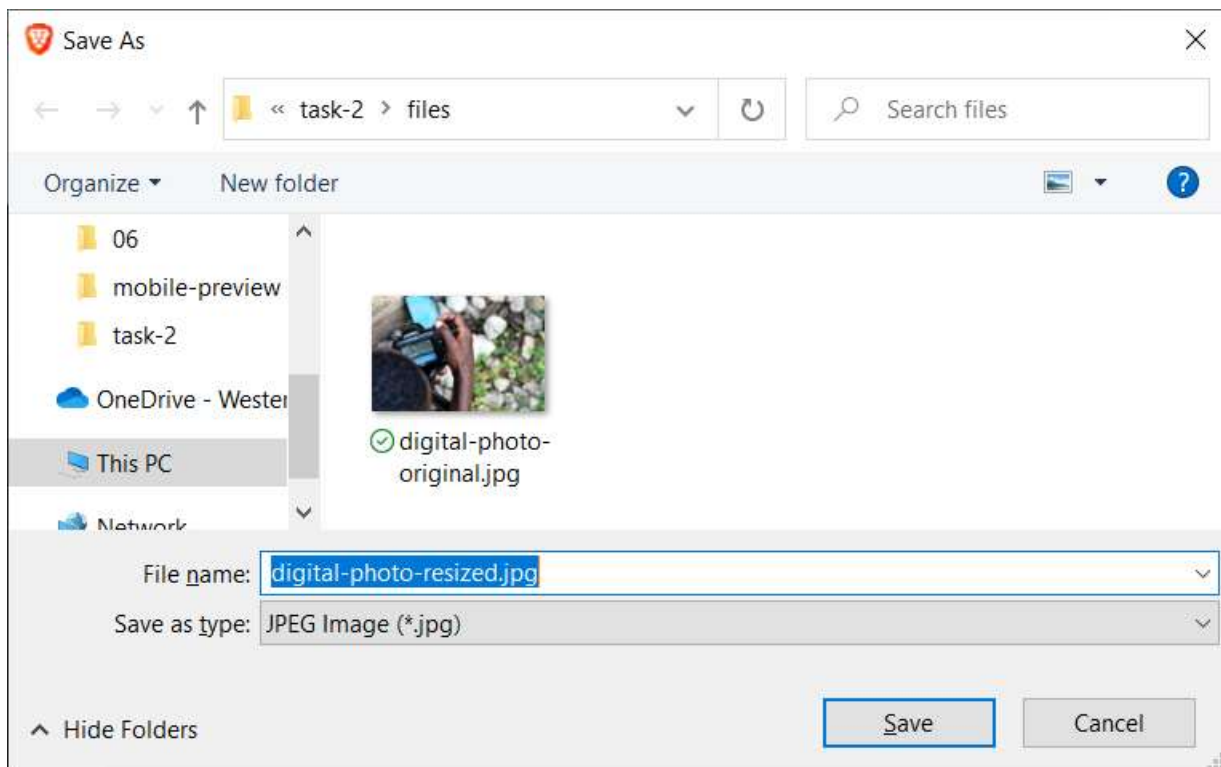




29. In the save option pop-up window keep all the default settings and click on the **Download** button to save the file.

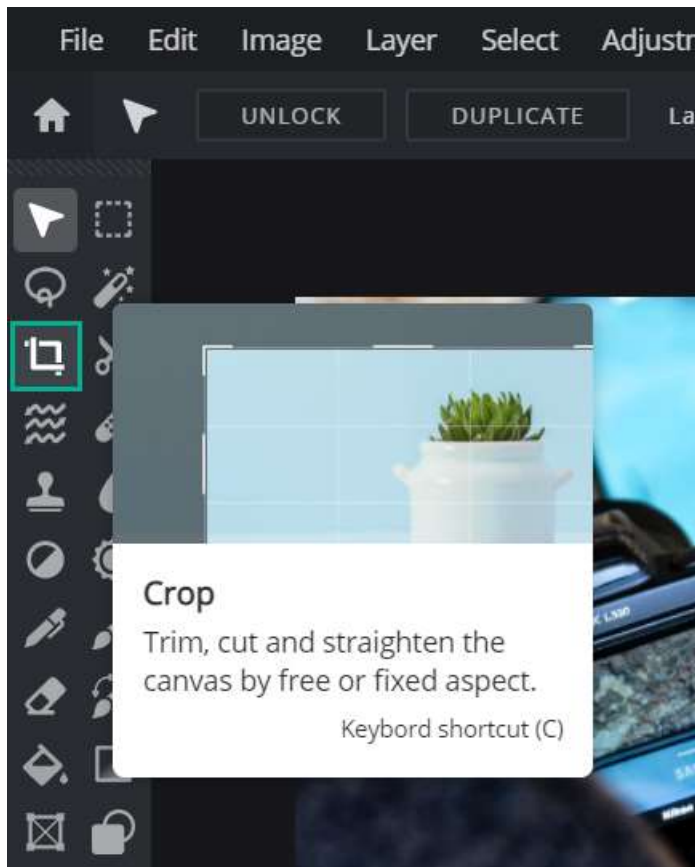


30. Change the name of the saved file to **digital-photo-resized** and click **Save**.



31. Next, we're tasked with cropping the image.

32. To crop an image, select the **Crop Tool** in the tool's column on the left-hand side. We've highlighted it in green for you.



33. After selecting the crop tool, you should now see a bounding box around the image. Drag any of the corners or sides to crop the image.

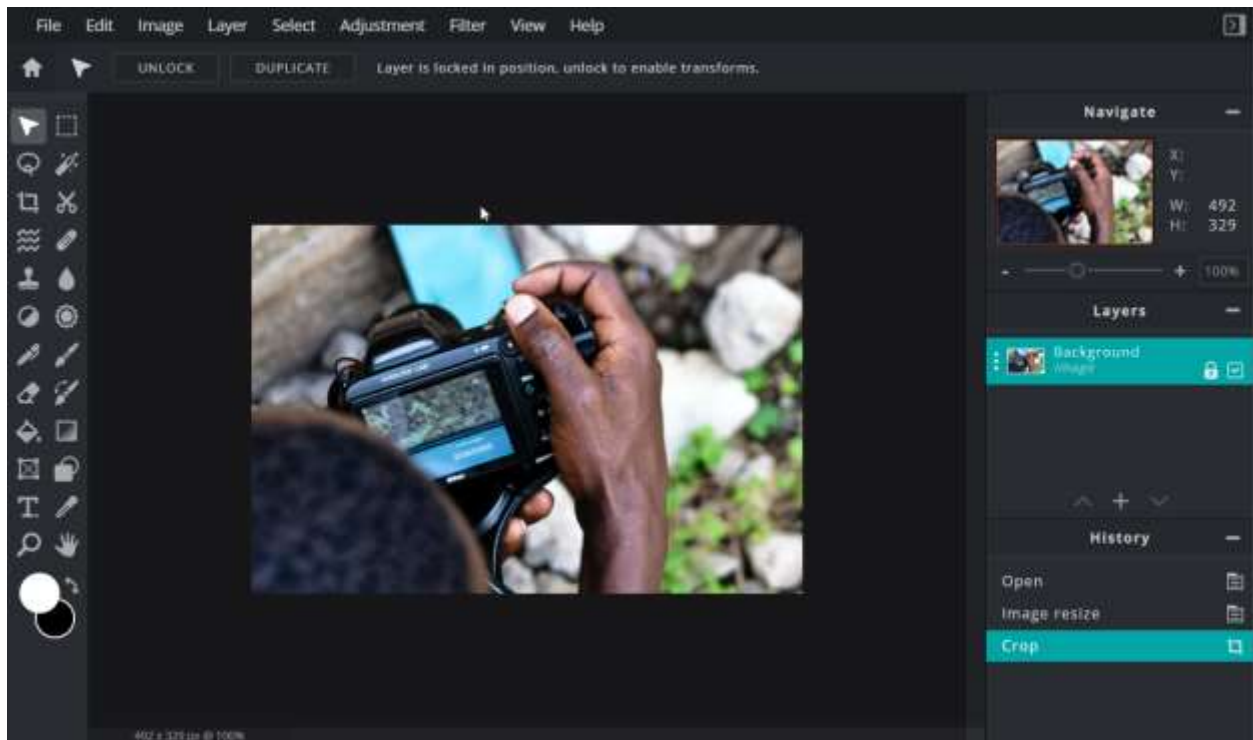
Use the new bounding box to crop the image. Drag from any corner or side



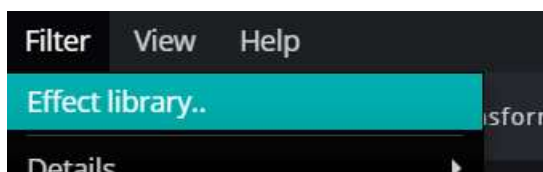
Freely move the crop box around the image to adjust to your liking

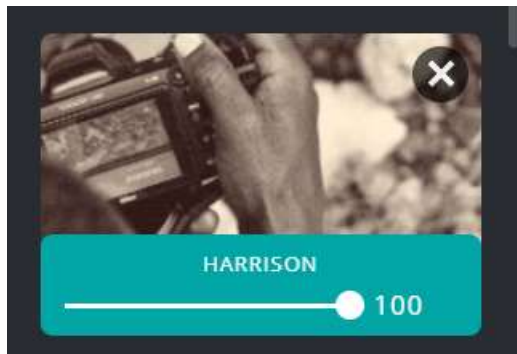


34. Press **Enter** to confirm the crop.



35. Now repeat the Save process and save the file as: **digital-photo-resized-cropped**
36. Our last task for working with this photo is apply a filter.
37. In the top menu click on the **Filter** and select **Effect library..**
38. Choose any filter you like.
39. For this tutorial were going to use the: **TOO-OLD > Harrison (100%)**
40. Click the **APPLY** button once you've made your choice.





41. Now go ahead and save this version as: **digital-photo-resized-cropped-adapted**
42. Congratulations. You've created the first four images required for the assignment.

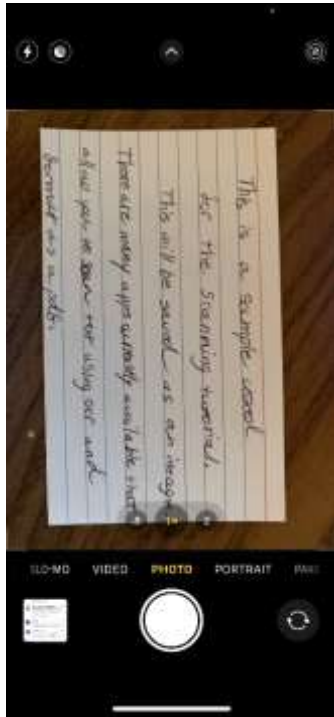
## Image 2 – Scanned Image

*The free dictionary online says a digital scanner is an electronic device that generates a digital representation of an image for data input to a computer.*

Meaning if you don't have access to a standard scanner then your mobile device such as phone or tablet can act as your scanner. For this task we will just the phone as the scanner.

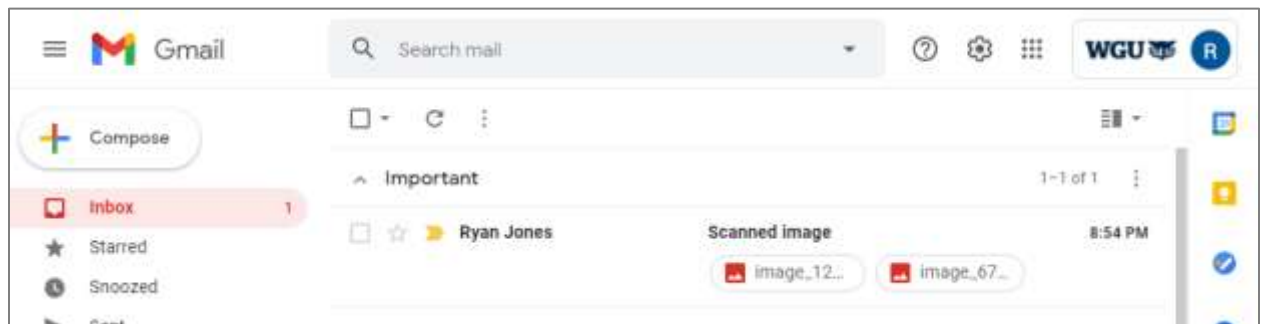
1. First, find an image or document that is NOT a photograph. Like a graphic or piece of paper with some text on it.
2. Place the image or document on a flat surface.
3. Using a mobile phone or tablet take a picture of it. (scan it)

*When taking the picture imagine your device is like a scanner. You want it to be as flat as possible.*



*You can either crop the image on your phone or you do it using an image editing program like Pixlr or even most default system photo viewers offer the ability to crop.*

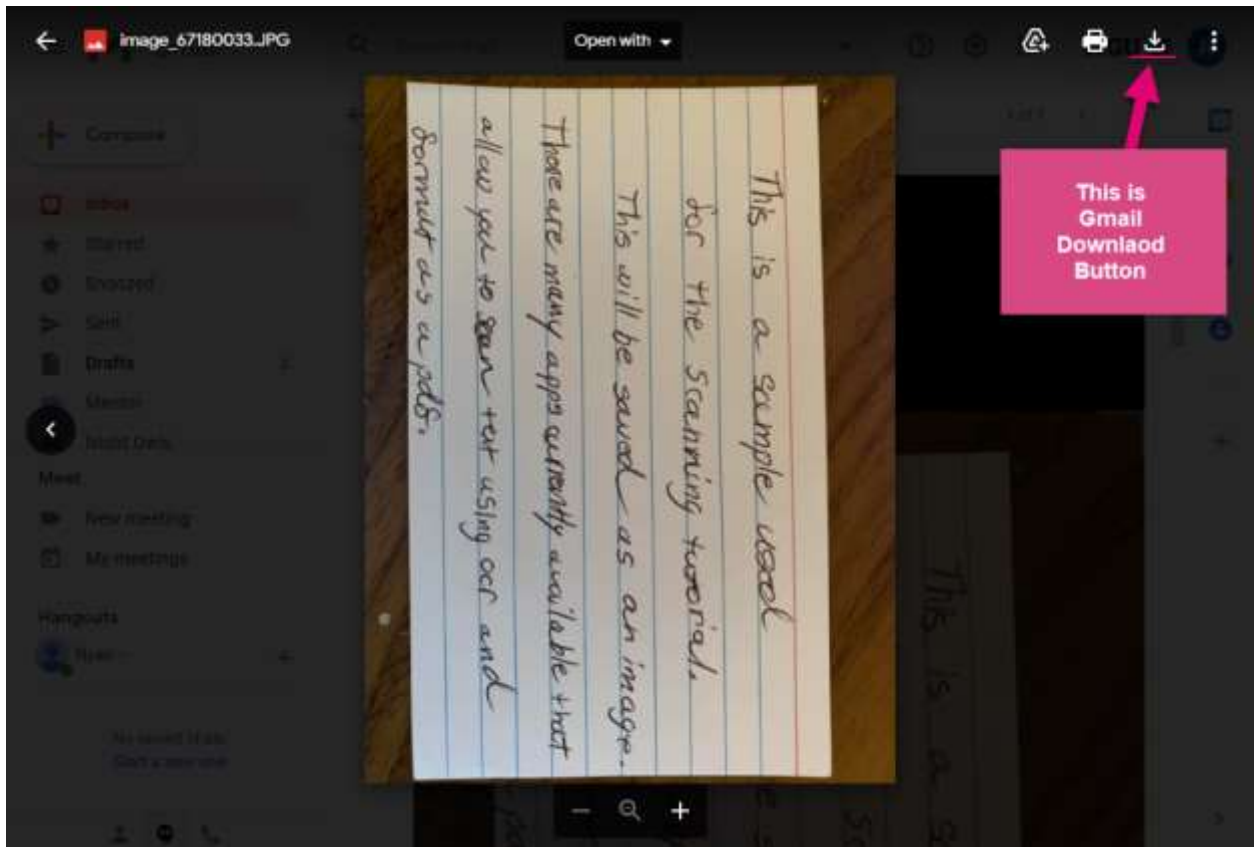
4. You have multiple options available for transferring the image to computer.
  - a. Email it to yourself
  - b. Use some type of online file storage
  - c. Connect your device directly to your computer and transfer it.
5. For this example, we will go with email.
6. On your mobile device open your email account.
7. Compose a new email to *yourself* and attach the image. Yes, you can email yourself.
8. After sending the email from your mobile device open your email on your desktop computer. You should see an email from yourself with the attached image.



9. Download the image and save it as: **sample-scanned-original.jpg** or **.png**

*replace 'sample' with a name that best suites the image you scanned.*

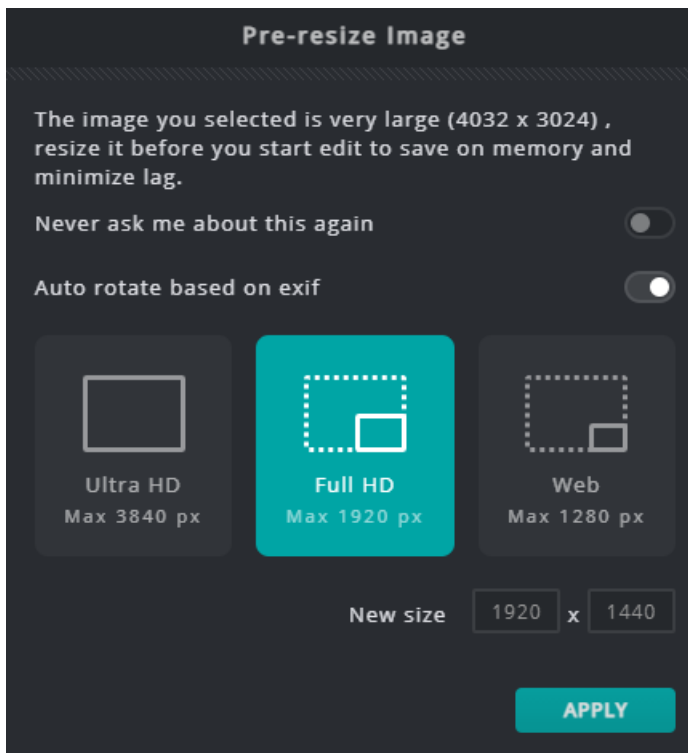




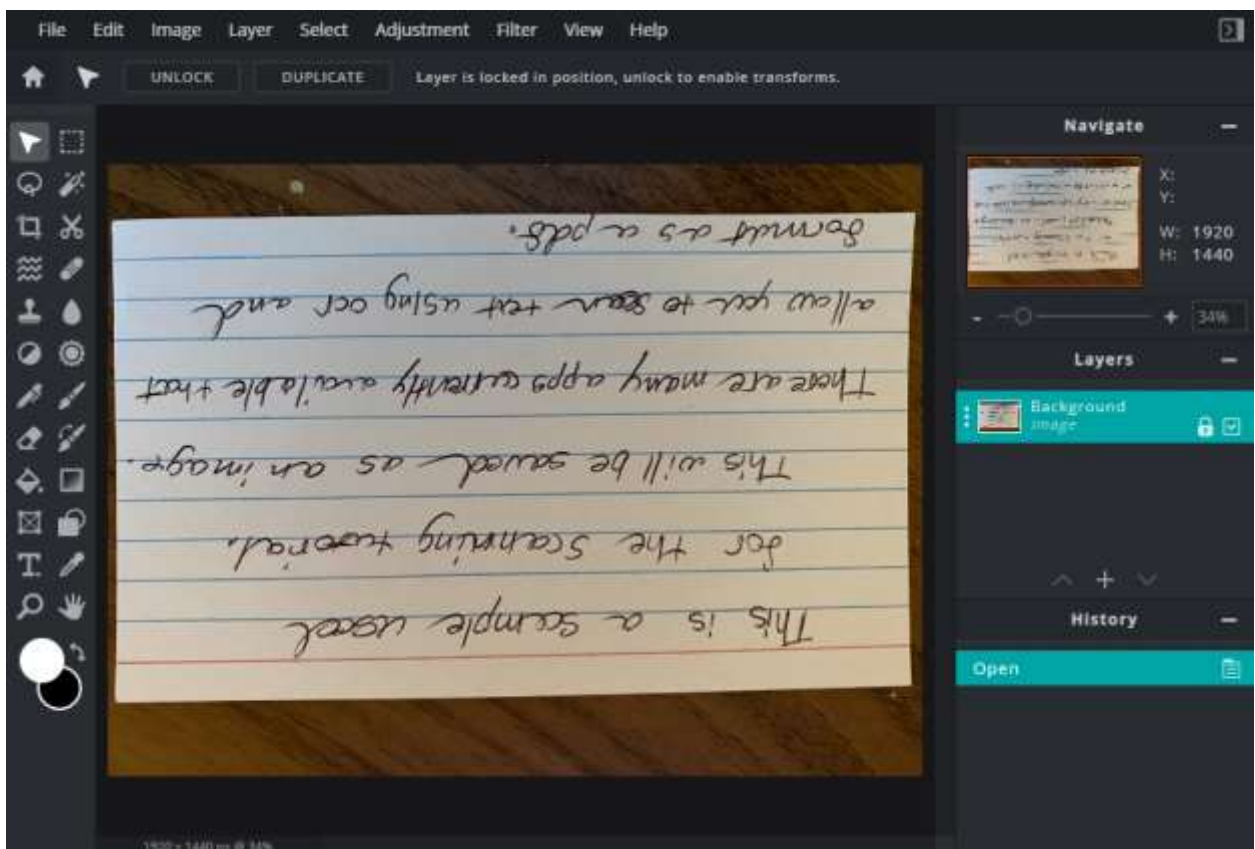
10. Next, we are tasked with resizing the image again to 640 width.
11. But before we resize the image, it is highly recommended that you rotate your image and crop it so that no extra background appears with it.
12. For the rest of this we will be using the Pixlr Editor again.
13. Open the image in the Pixlr Editor. If you've forgotten the address her it is: <https://pixlr.com/e/>

*Here is some good experience. The key differences between taking a photo and an old school scanner are... a photo is likely much larger than the scan in both dimension and file size.*

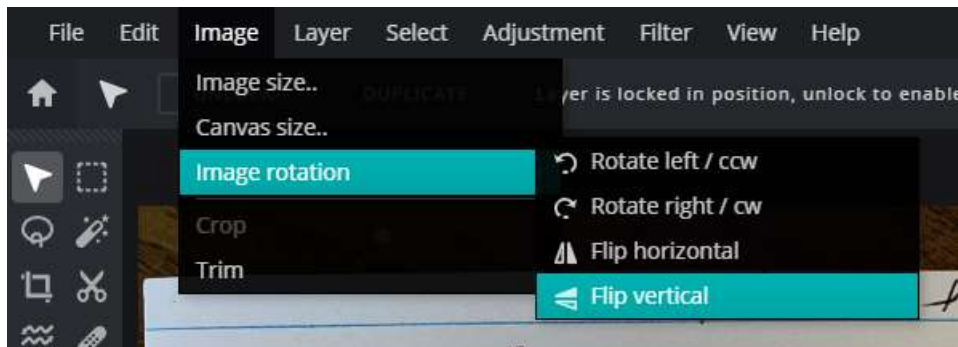
*Pixlr will help you with this if you need it.*



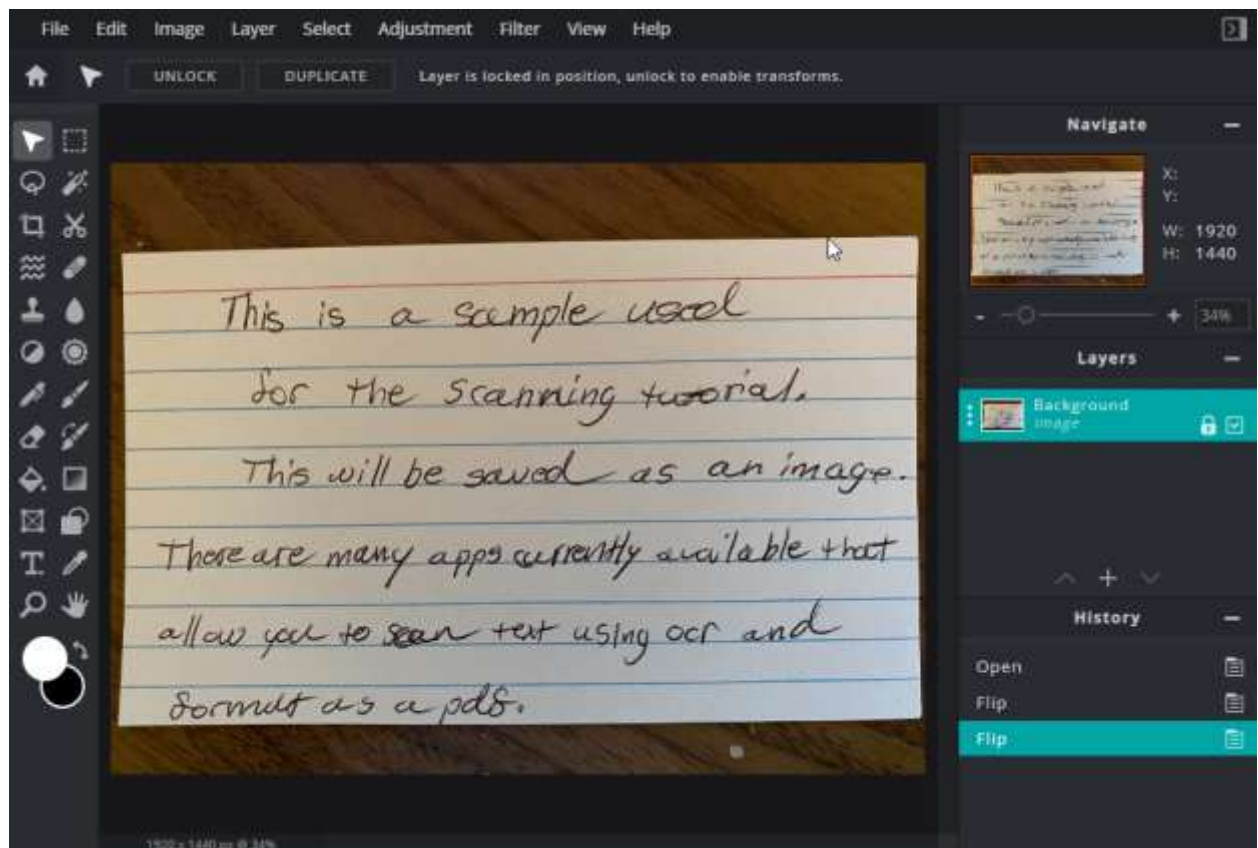
14. We've decided to let Pixlr **Pre-size Image** help us by leaving the recommended options and clicking **APPLY**.



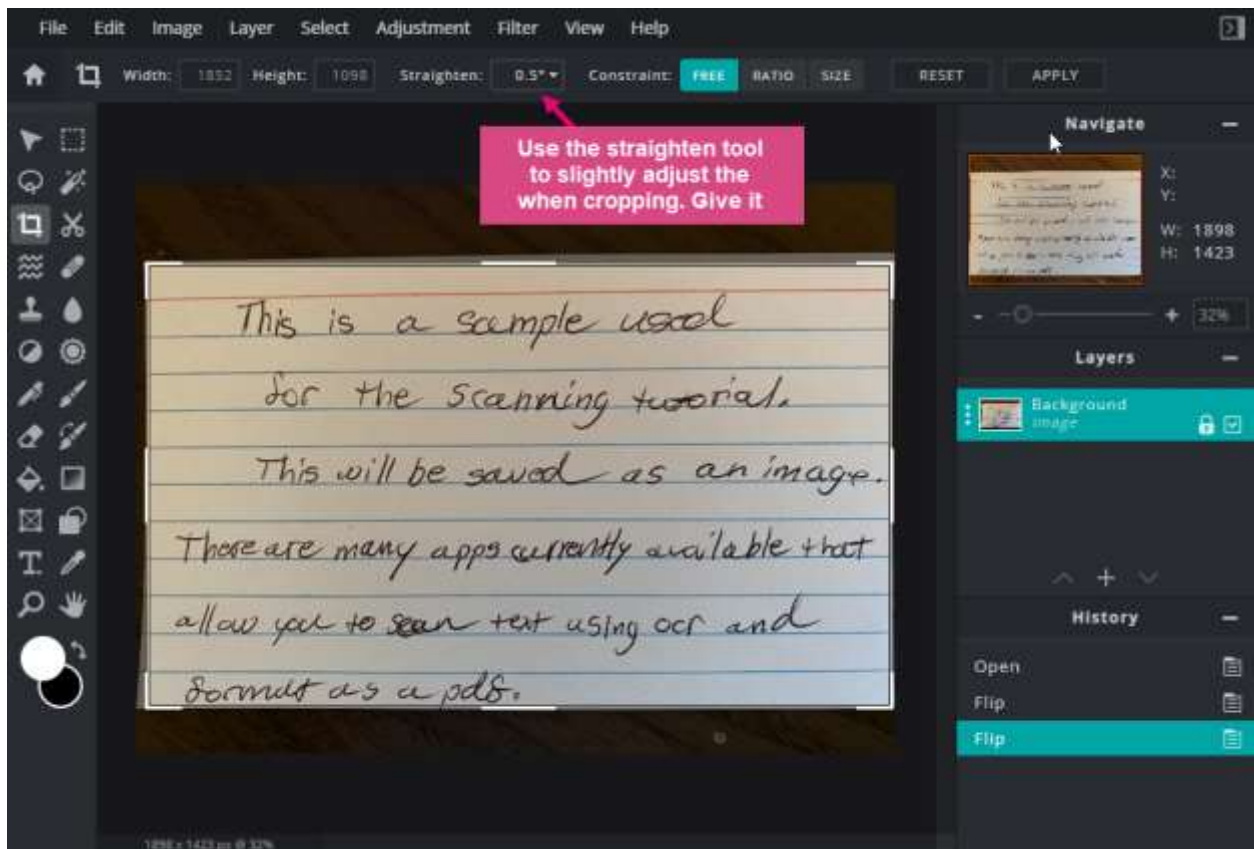
15. As you can see Pixlr decided to rotate it for us. Sadly, it rotated it the wrong direction turning it upside down. But that's okay, we can fix this.
16. In the Top Menu select: **Image > Image Rotation > Flip vertical**



17. Then repeat the process but this time select: **Flip horizontal**



18. Next, we will crop the image to help with removing the background. Try using the **Straightening Tool**

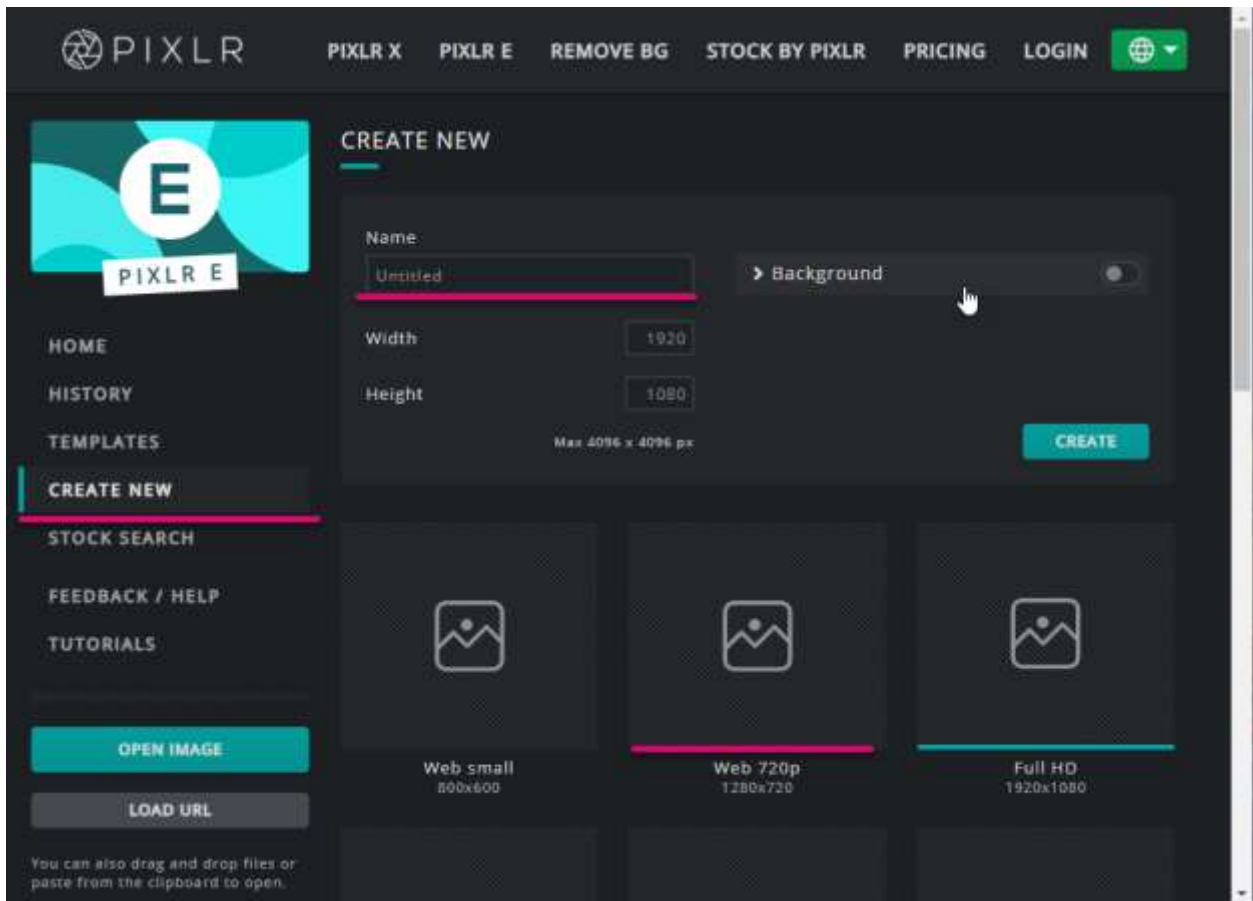


19. Now, let's save this over the original file. – If you are unfamiliar with the process, it's the same as saving, except you find the original image, select it and click save. Your computer will prompt you saying this image already exists, do you want to replace it? And you say, Yes!
20. Next, we scale the width down to 640 and save it as: **sample-scanned-adapted**
21. Congratulations! You've just created images five and six.

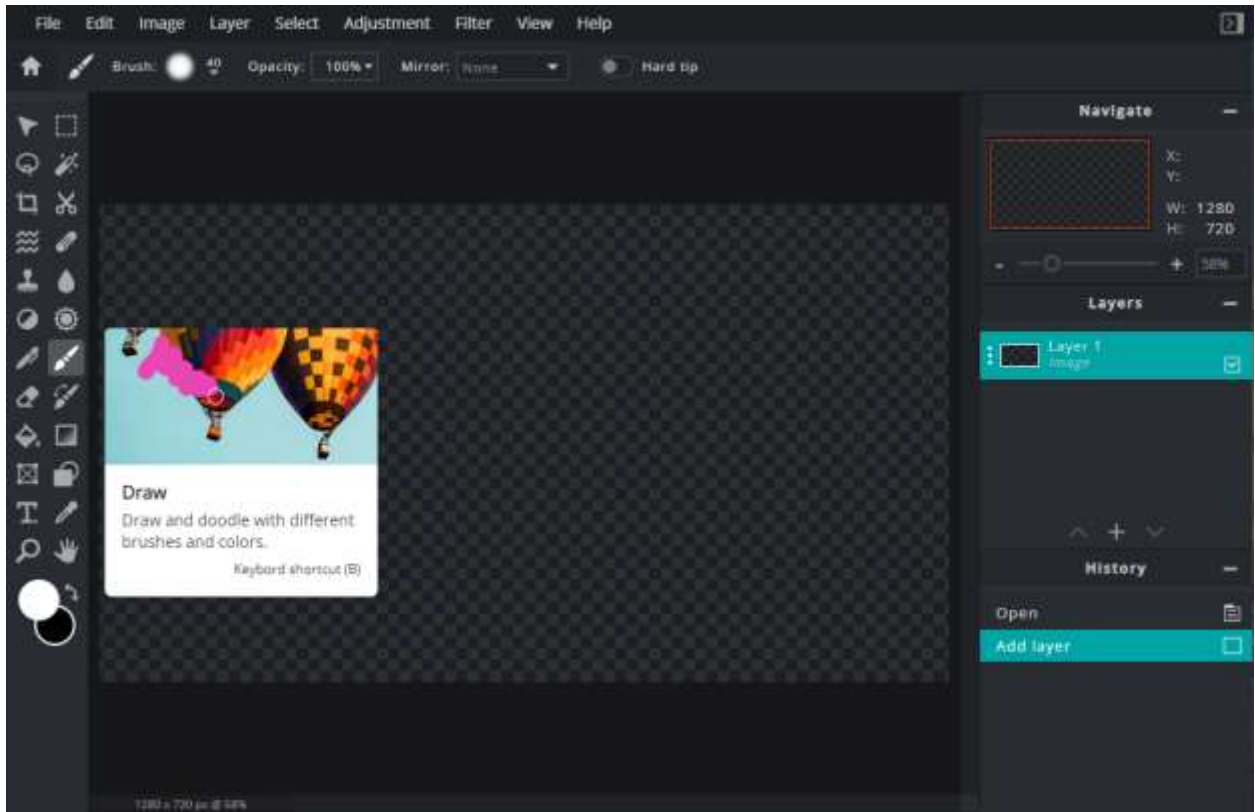
### Image 3 – Painting

For this task we are asked to create a digital painting using any digital photo/graphic editing software. We've decided to stick with our trusty Pixlr Editor.

1. On the pixlr website: <https://pixlr.com/e>
2. Select: **CREATE NEW**
3. Name your image 'paint', choose the Web 720p size, and click the **CREATE** button.  
*You are welcome to choose any size you like.*



4. Once the empty canvas loads. Locate and select the paint brush in the tool's palette on the left.

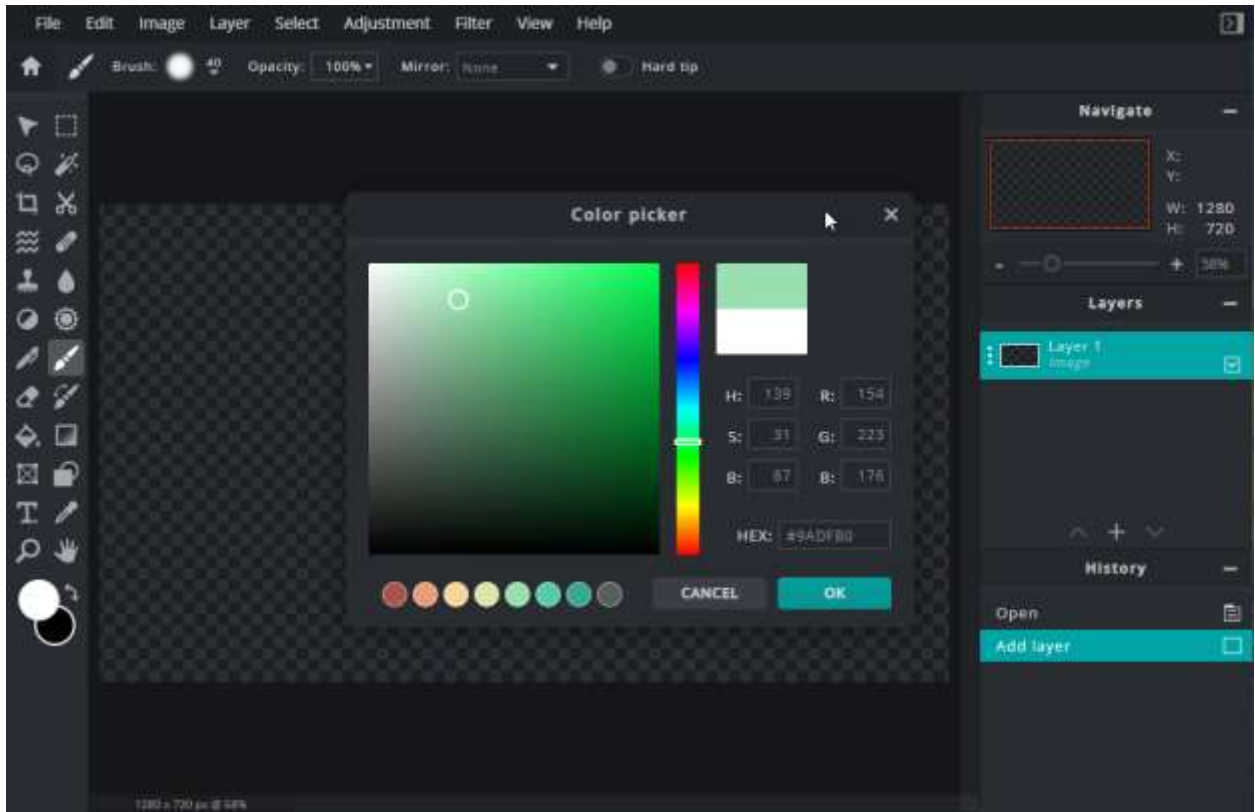


5. To choose a color locate the **Foreground/Background** colors. It's the two circles that overlap one another.



6. The top is the Foreground, and the bottom is the Background.
7. Clicking on either one of these open a color window where you select different colors.

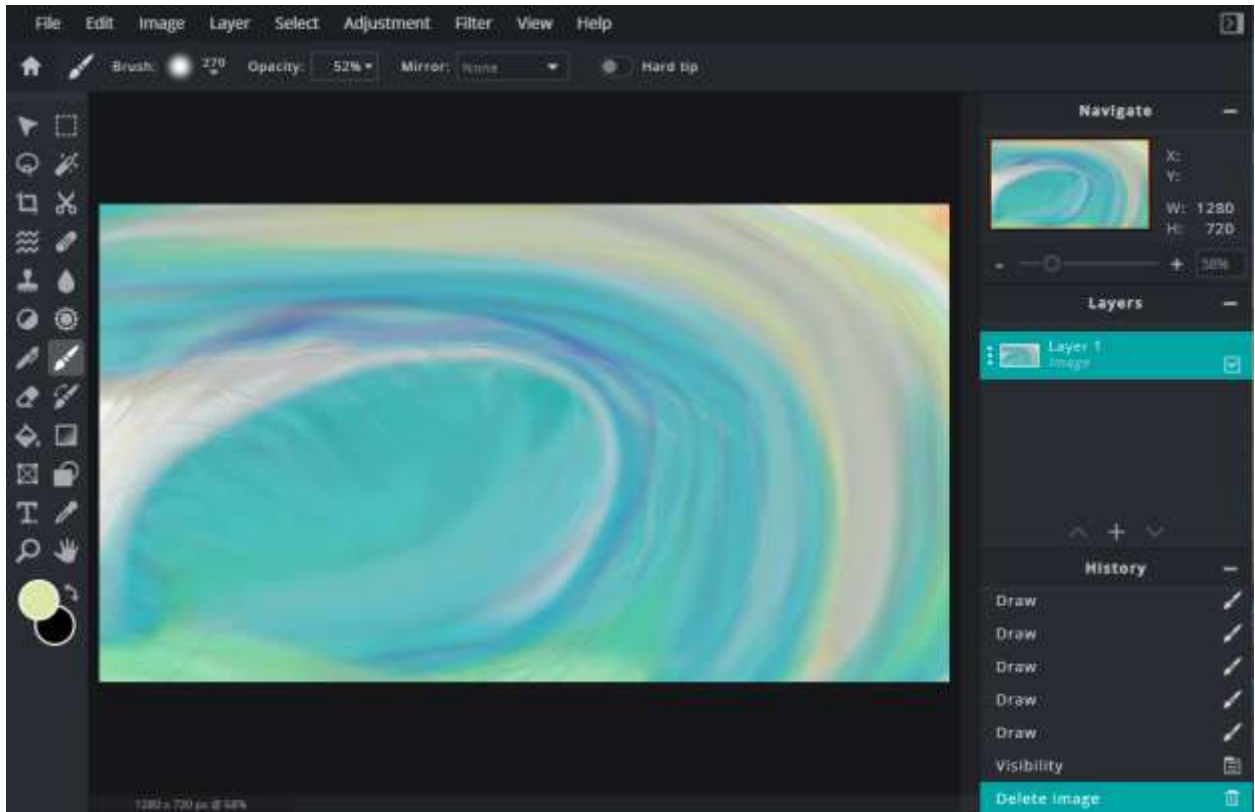




8. Select a color, click the **OK** button and begin painting. Change up the colors and play around.
9. If you'd like to change the brush size, locate the word **Brush:** above the tool's palette. To the right of the word is circle. This is your brush type.
10. Clicking this icon will reveal many options for adjusting the look and feel of the brush.



11. To the right of the palette is the brush size. By default, it is set to **40**.
12. Continuing to the right we have the brush opacity.
13. Play around with all these tools and the others in the tool's palette.
14. Once you have the painting you like, save it as **paint-original.jpg**



15. Finally, scale the image to a width of 640 and save it as **paint-adapted.jpg**
16. You've just finished creating images seven and eight.

#### Image 4 – External URL

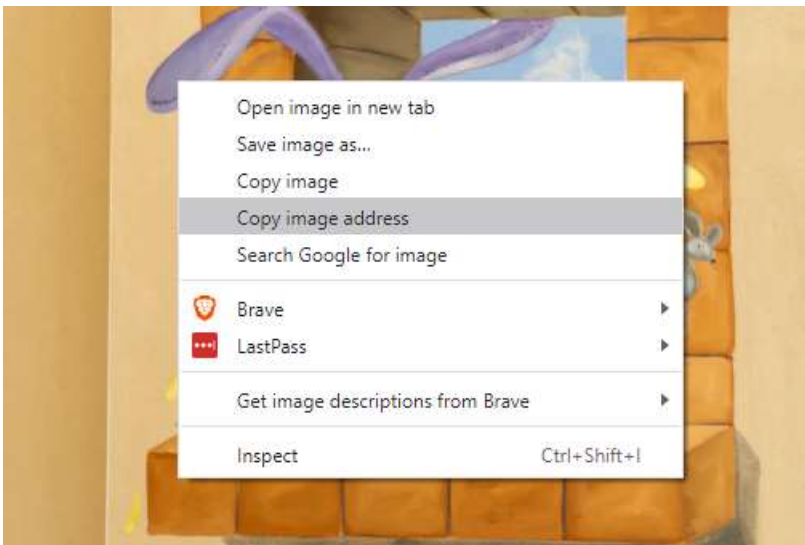
For the final task we are asked to download a photo from the internet.

1. This task is quite easy. We leave the choice up to you. If you need help with websites, we recommend selecting a photo from one of these sites.
  - a. Unsplash.com
  - b. Pexels.com
  - c. Pixabay.com
2. For the example we'll use Unsplash because its easy to use and because we show you a fun way of downloading the image using the pixlr editor.
3. Open your browser and go to Unsplash.com
4. Easter is coming up so we will search for "easter bunny".
5. The image we will be selecting is: <https://unsplash.com/photos/aGrCA7hy6rM>

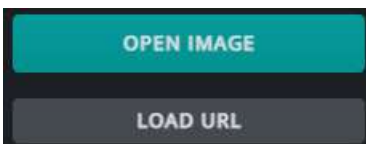


by Nick Fewings

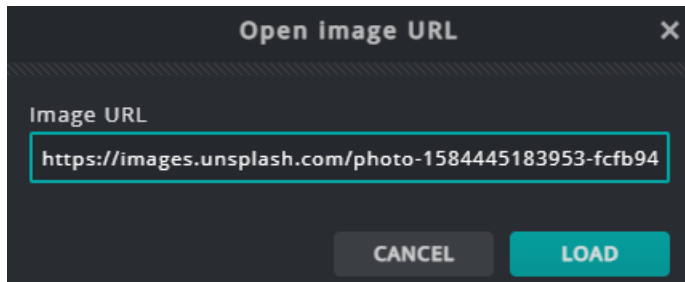
6. If you want, you can either download one of the three sizes available for download under the **Download free** button or you can follow up load the image into pixlr before downloading it.
7. On the image, right-click it and pop-up will appear



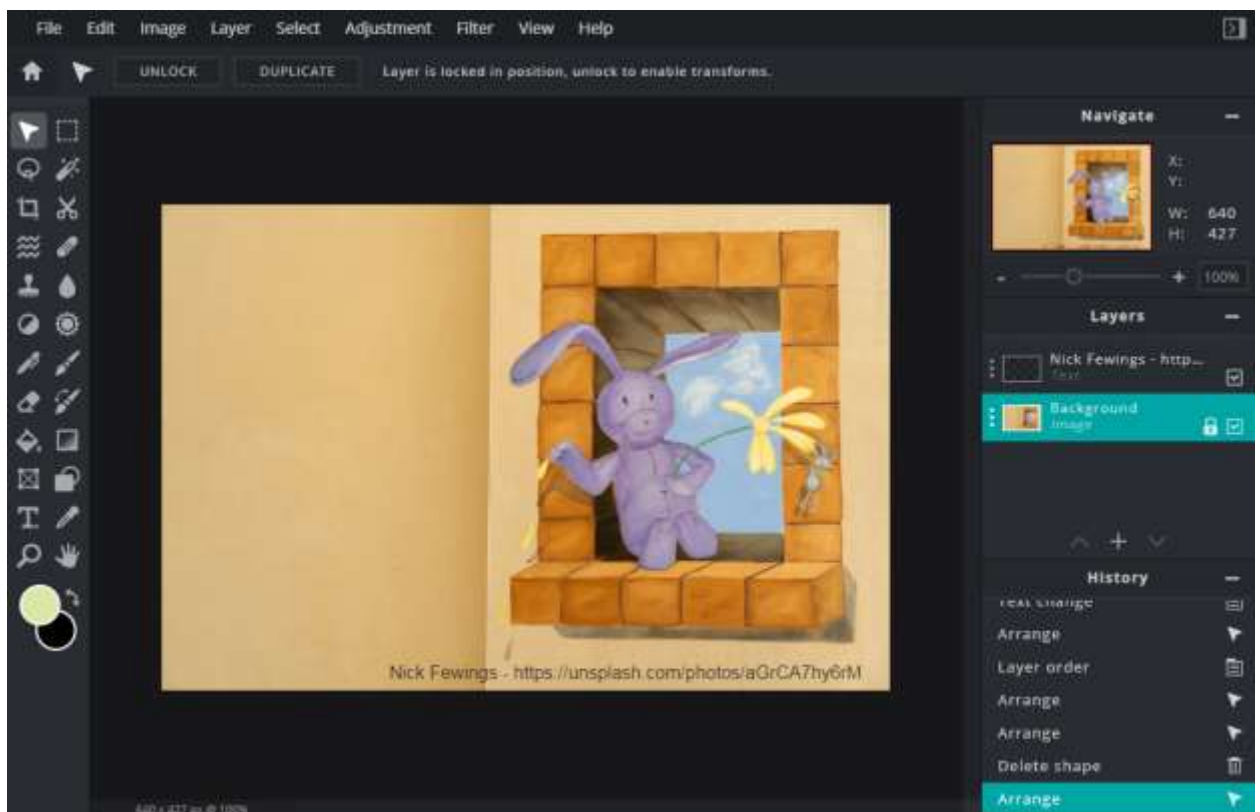
8. Select the option: **Copy image address**
9. Next, open a new tab in your browser and go to: <https://pixlr.com/e/>
10. Now on the left-hand side find the **LOAD URL** button towards the bottom left.



11. Paste in the **image address** you just copied and click **LOAD**



12. Your image should now be loaded into Pixlr.
13. Though it's not required, let's scale the image down to a width of 640
14. Now, let's give it credit by adding the authors name and URL to the where is located online.



15. Finally, we can save the image as: **easter-outside.jpg**

## References

- PIXLR. (2021). *Photo Editor : Pixlr E - free image editing tool*. Retrieved from PIXLR: <https://pixlr.com/e/>
- TechSmith. (2021). *Snagit = The Best Screen Capture Software (Free Trial) | TechSmith*. Retrieved from Snagit: <https://www.techsmith.com/screen-capture.html>

UNSPLASH. (2021). *Beautiful Free Images & Pictures / Unsplash*. Retrieved from Unsplash:  
<https://unsplash.com/>