

Western Sullivan Public Library

Practicing GIMP Workshop



Practicing GIMP

Exercise #1

The goal of this exercise is to merge two photographs to make it appear as though the man in one picture is standing in front of the mountains.



The first step of doing this will be to remove the background of the photo of the man. We can start by using the “Fuzzy Select Tool”, but with the complexities of the background, it may be necessary to carefully use the eraser to remove certain elements.

Next we need to open the photo of the mountain range, and paste the man into it. To do this, choose “Edit” then “Select All” from the file menu (or use the shortcut: CTRL + A) on the picture of the man. Then choose “Edit” then “Copy” (CTRL + C).

On the picture of the mountains, choose “Edit” then “Paste” (CTRL + V). The picture of the man will initially appear as a “Floating Layer” that is not editable. To change this, right click the “Floating Layer” in the layer menu, and choose “New Layer”.

It might be necessary to change the size of the mountain picture so that it appears to scale with the man.



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Exercise #2

For this exercise, open the below photo (or use any photo you might have in which someone has “red eye”).



Using what we've learned in past classes, try to come up with some possible remedies.

Would drawing over the red area with a black brush work?

How about creating a new, transparent layer, then using a black brush over the pupils in that layer, then adjusting the opacity in the layer menu to make the difference a bit more subtle?

What if we used the “Ellipse Select” or “Free Select” tools to select the pupils, then desaturated them, or changed their brightness or contrast?

Once you've found a good solution for the red eye, get a fun, creepy effect by using the “Clone Stamp” tool to remove the irises and pupils altogether! Remember, when using the “Clone Stamp”, hold down CTRL and click on the area you want to replicate, then draw normally with your mouse over the area you want altered.