

Kinetics Animation in After Effects – Karen Nir

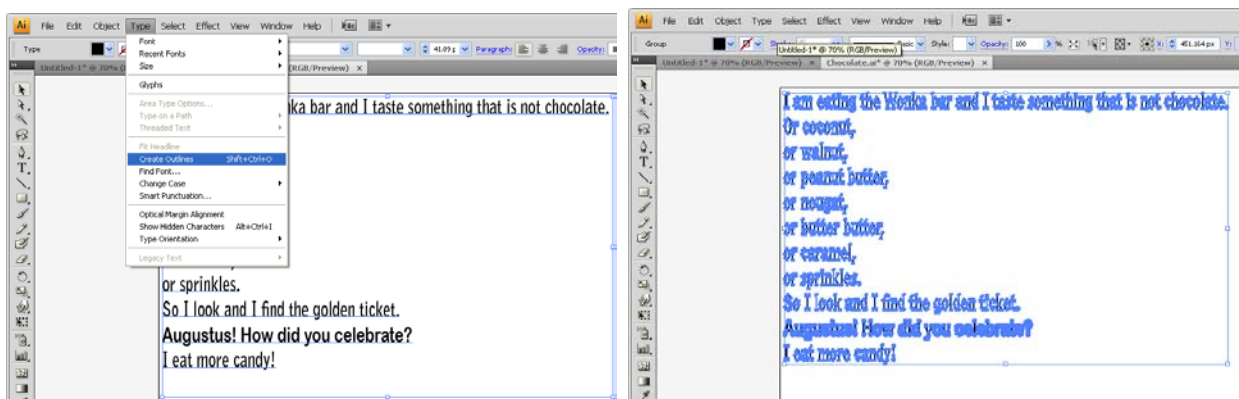
Find a script you like, make sure it has pauses and highs and lows – copy into a word doc.

Open Illustrator and choose a web (measures in pixels) document 1200X 1200

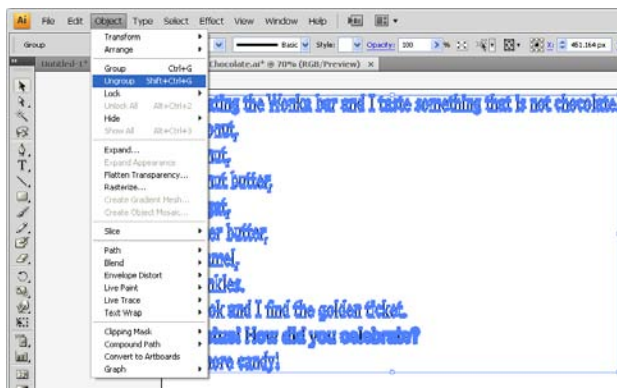
Select the text tool then click the upper left corner and paste the script from the word doc.

Change the font to whatever you like.

Right now they are one object, we need to change that.

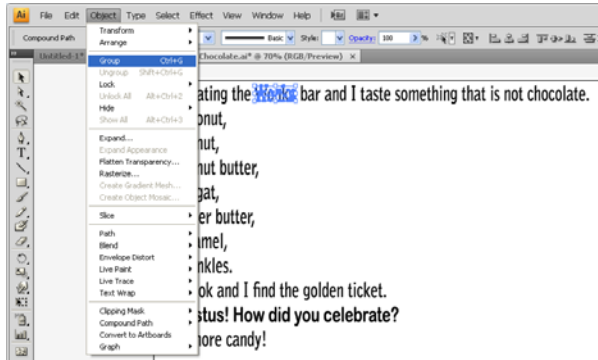


Type - Create Outline



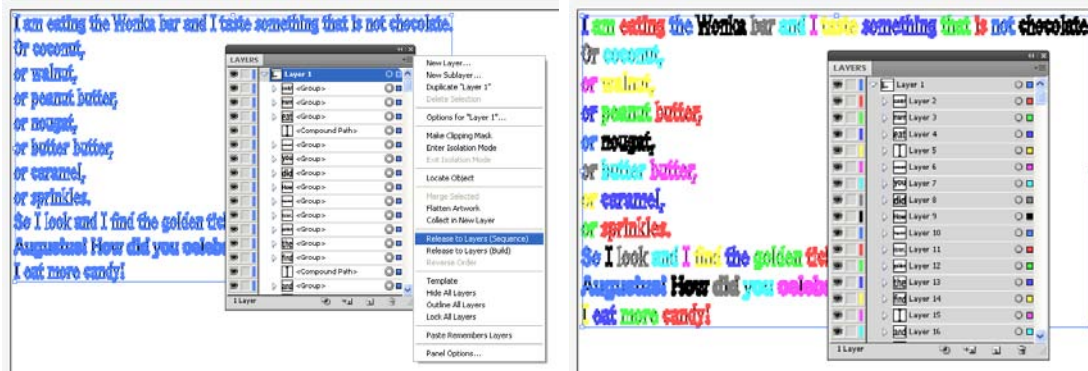
Object – Ungroup

Each letter is now an individual shape, we need to group the words together. Drag select.



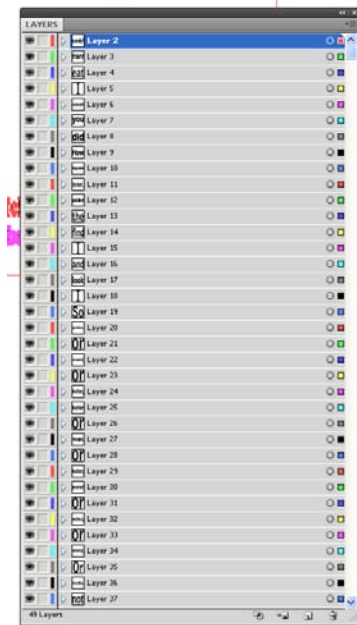
Object – Group (Ctrl G is the hotkey)

We want to animate the individual words so we need to have each word on a different layer before we bring it into After Effects. Select all and open up your layers window.



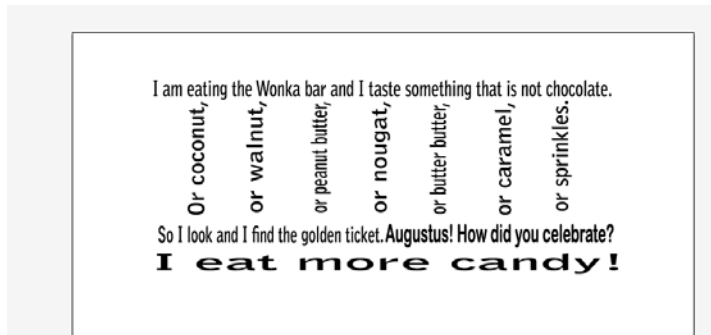
Right click on options. Release to Layers Sequence.

Now each word is in its own layer, however they are all under that first Layer subset.



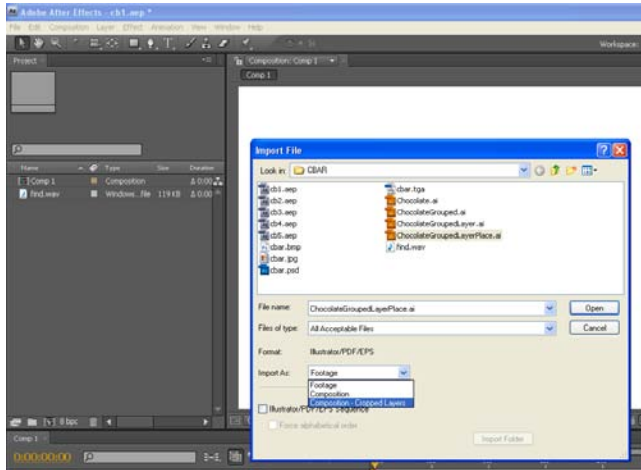
Select the first layer hold down Shift on your keyboard and select the last layer and drag it to the top of the stack, above Layer 1

The Layout is boring; you can organize your word in a more interesting layout.



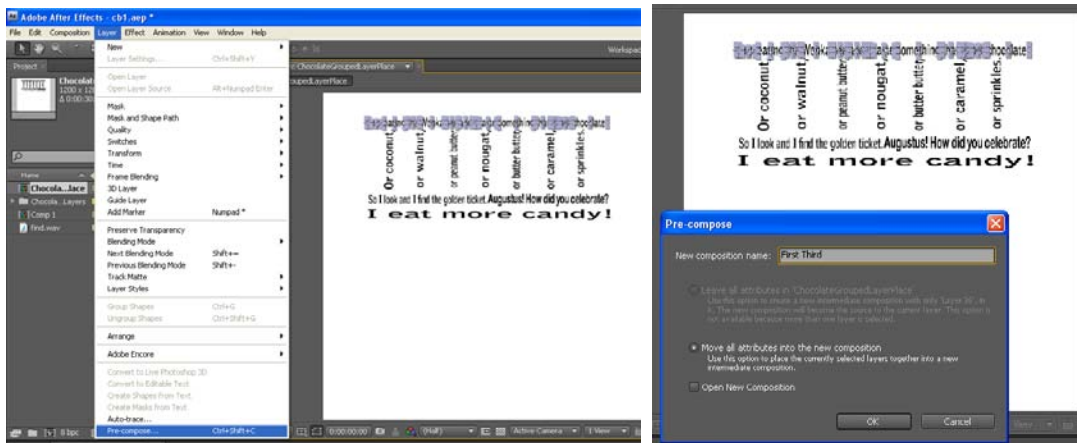
Since this script is about chocolate I decided to layout the words as a bar of chocolate.

Open up After Effects and make the Composition at least as long as the audio clip. 720X486 NTSC D1.

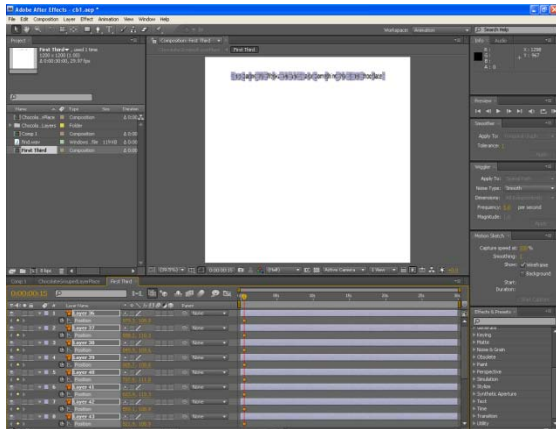


Make the background color white. Import your Illustrator file as Composition Cropped Layers.

Change the background color to white on the newly create composition.

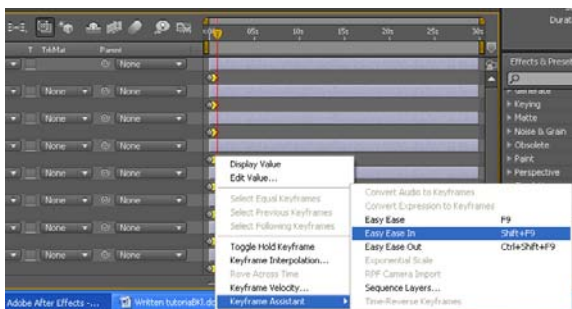


This is a fairly big file in order to animate more efficiently you will need to break this into different sections by creating a pre composition. Select the first third of the layers and select Layer Pre-Compose...



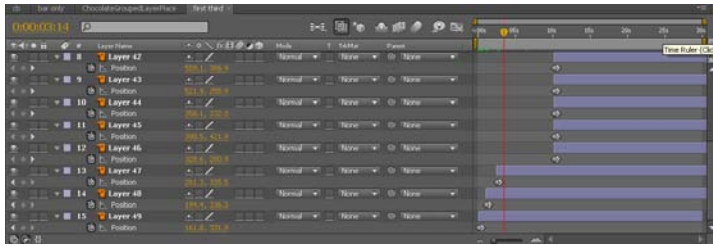
Open up the First Third Composition. To easily animate all these words moving into place select all go about 15 frames in and hit P on your keyboard to open the Position Attributes for all the layers. Click the stopwatch to set your first keyframe.

Drag the slider back to zero and start moving the individual layers. You want to move the words far enough out so that they look like they are coming on from off screen.



We want the position to ease in. Select all the second keyframes and right click Keyframe Assistant – Easy Ease In.

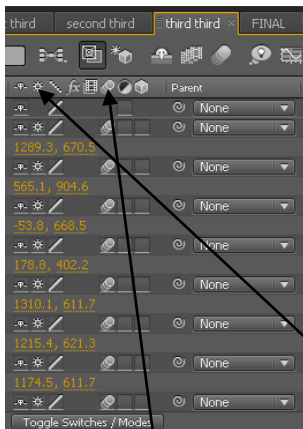
If you haven't done so already drag your audio file into the composition. Now you're ready to start syncing up your words to your audio. Select all your layers and move them down along the timeline.



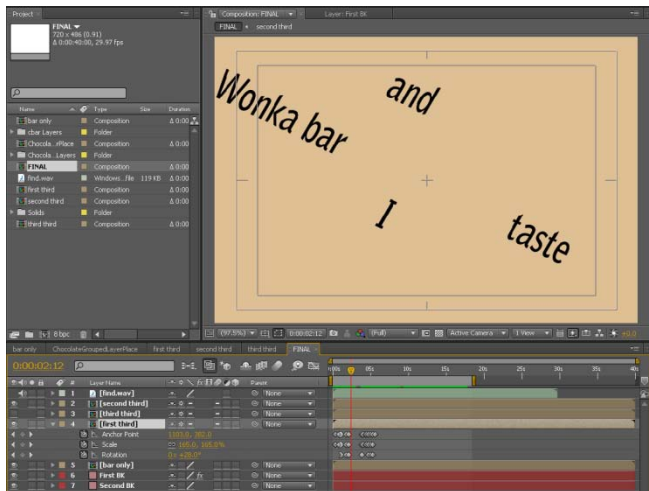
Select the first three words and drag them back to the beginning of the composition. Make sure you are dragging the layer and not changing the in point.

Once you are done animating this section create new pre-compositions for each of the remaining sections using the source audio.

Delete the source audio files from each of your compositions.



Make sure Blur and Continually Rasterize is turned on for all layers in all compositions.



When you have animated each of the sections you can drag them into the 720X486 Composition you create at the beginning of this tutorial. Animate each of those compositions. I animated the Anchor Point, Rotation and Scale of each.

Nice Job!

My final animation <http://www.nir3d.com/gallery/Chco/cbfinal.html>