

ITEC 715 – Week 2, Supplement 1

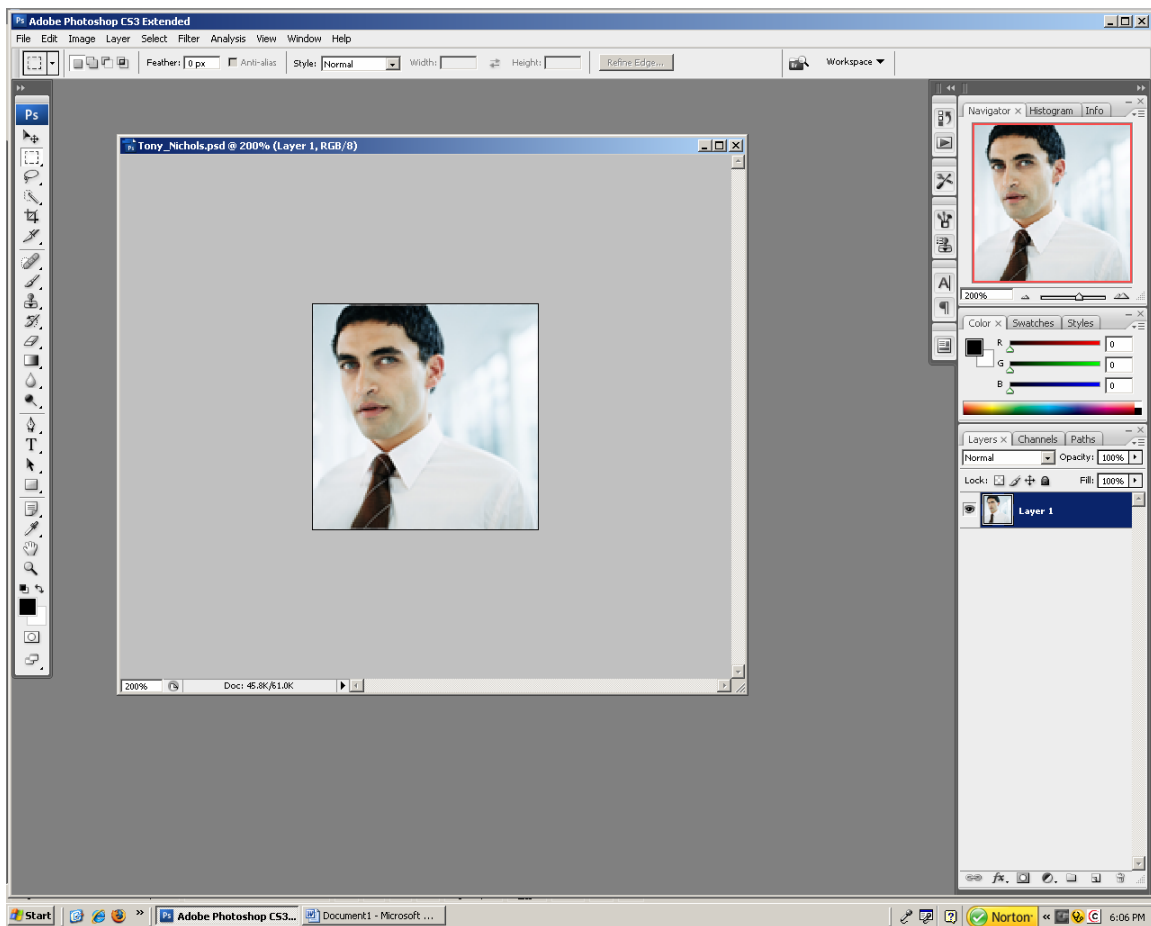
Word Balloons, An Alternate Method

Hi everyone,

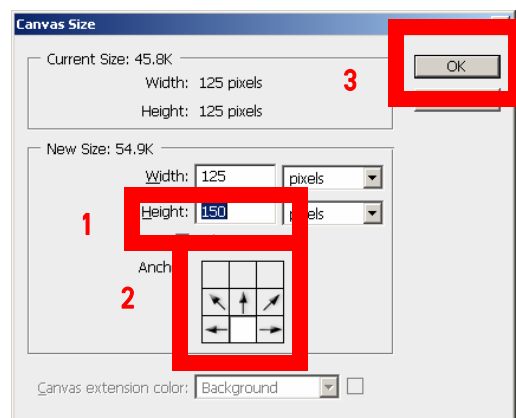
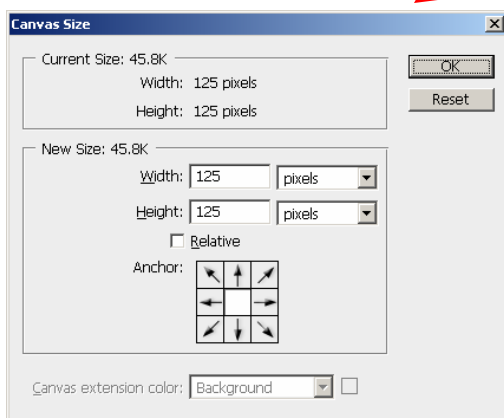
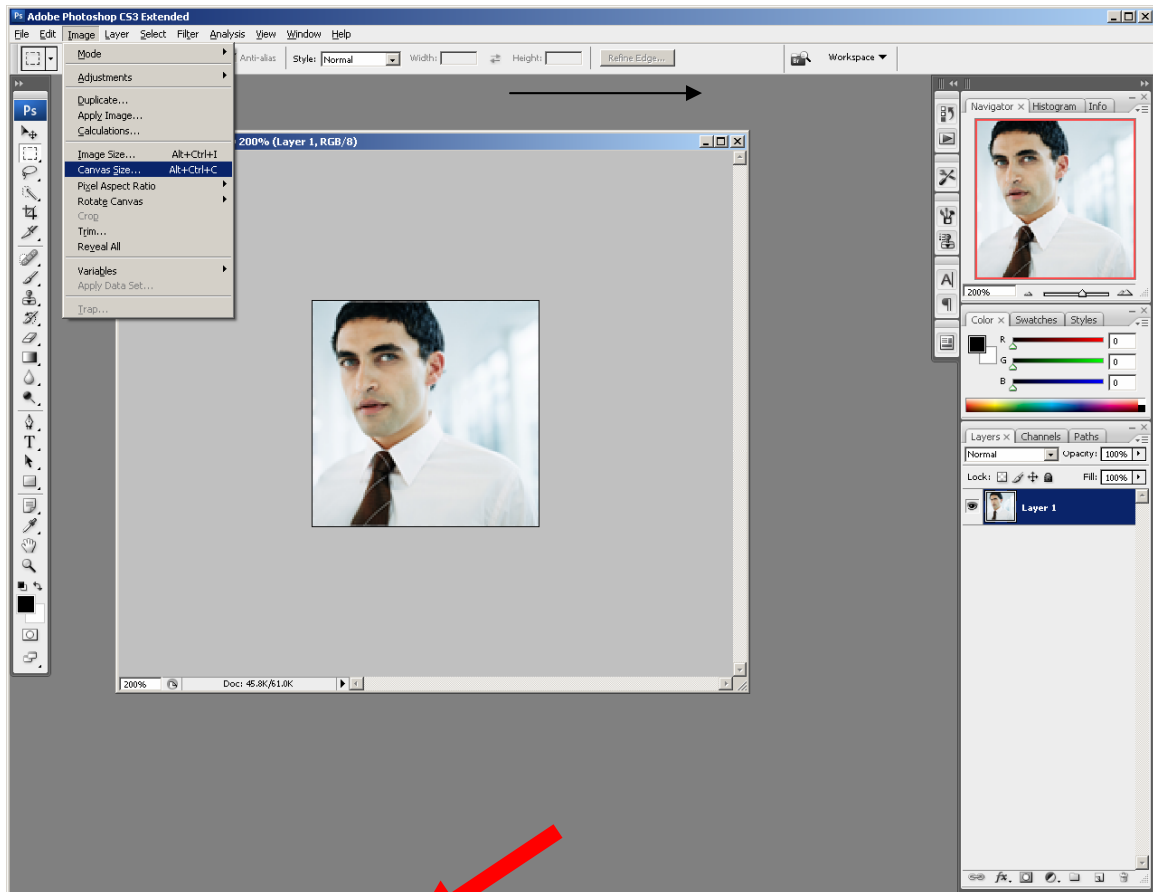
In last week's class, you learned how to create word balloon funnels using Photoshop's **liquify** filter. Here is an alternate way to create the word balloons:

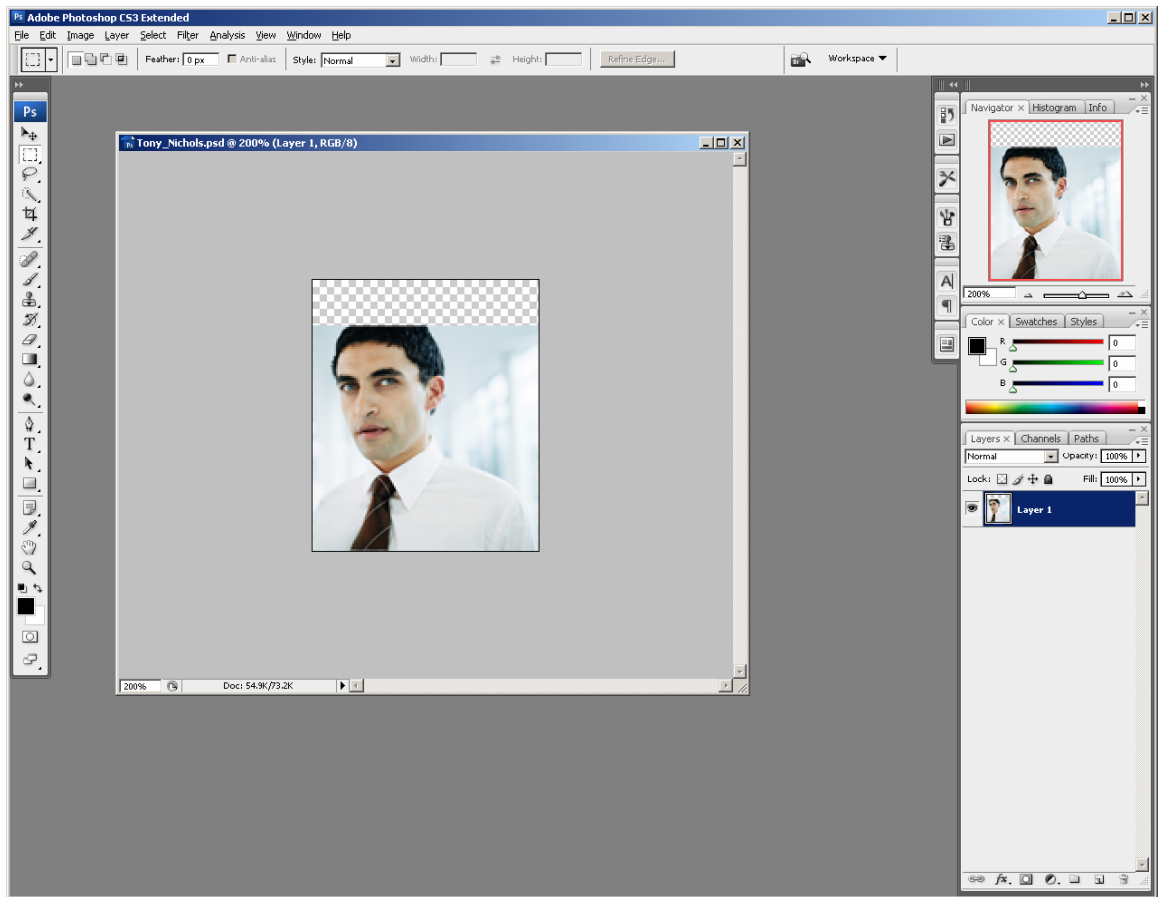
Creating Word Ballons, An Alternate Method

1. Start with the image loaded:

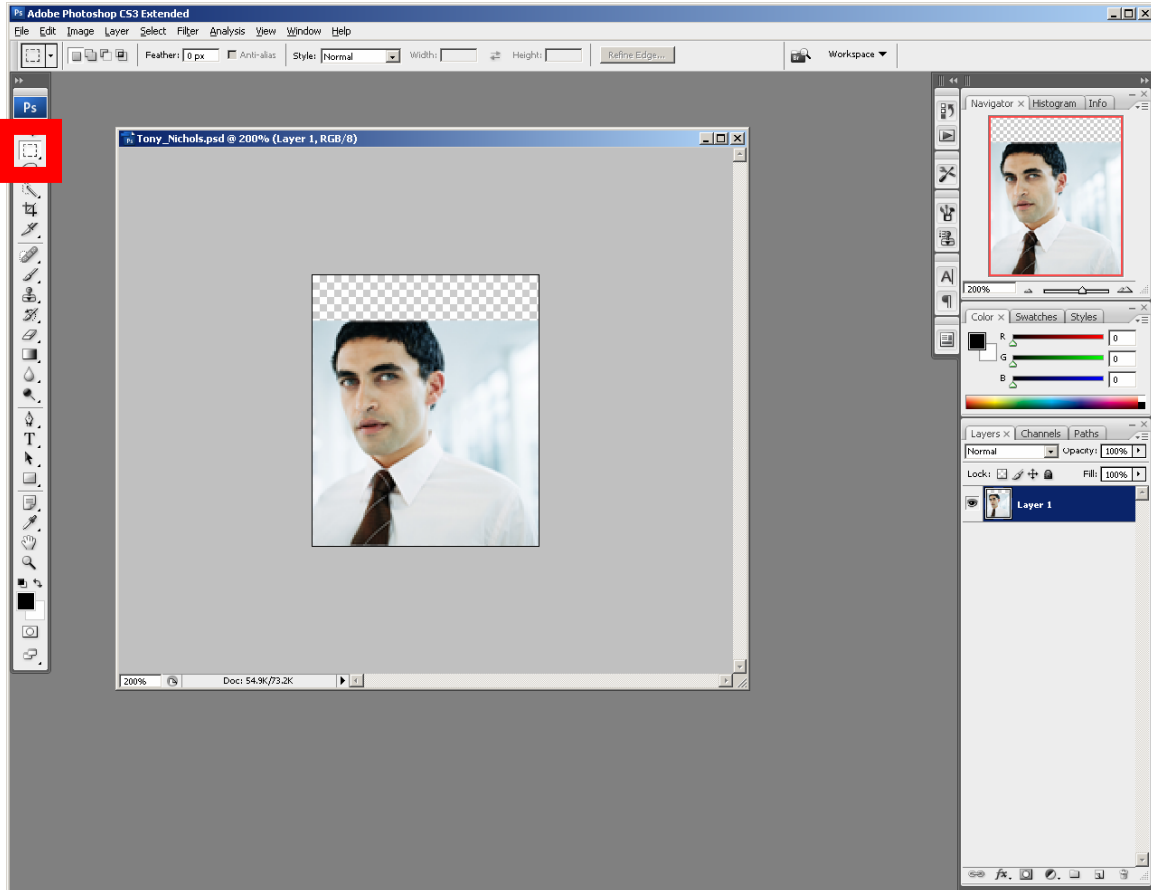


2. Add any additional space you might need to the top of the image by increasing the canvas size:

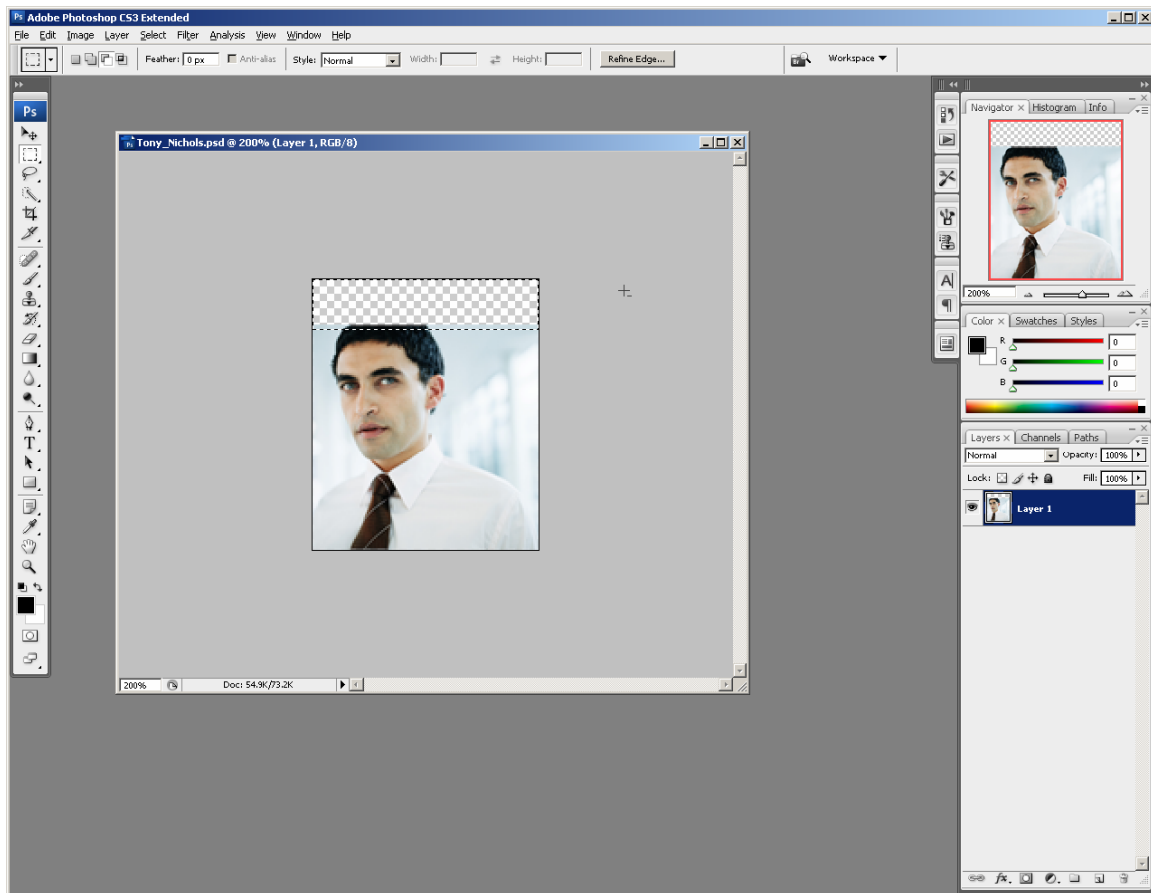




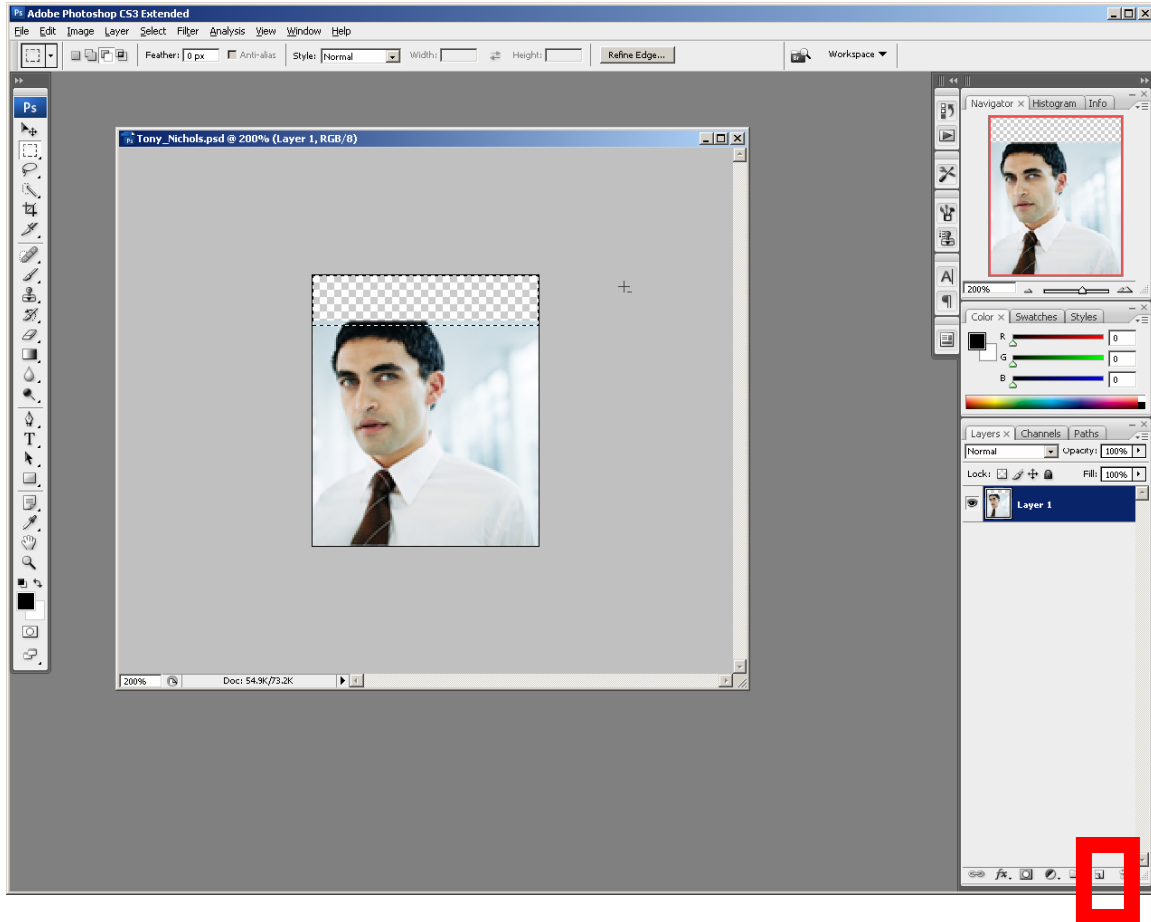
3. Select the **marquee** tool from the tool palette:

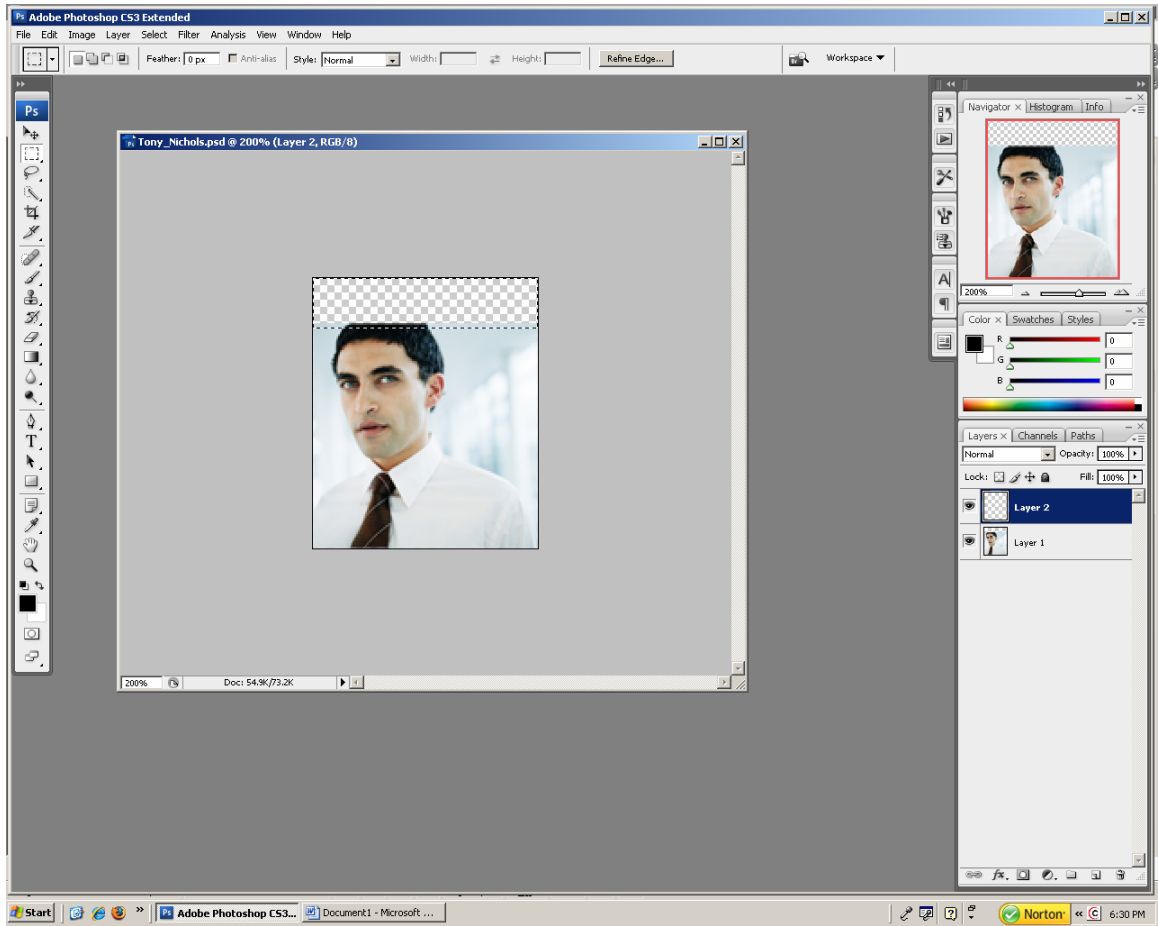


4. Mark out the area you want for your word balloon with the **marquee** tool by clicking the top left corner of the desired region and dragging to the lower left corner of the desired region (*Tip: You can start your initial click OUTSIDE the frame of the image in order to make sure that your left and top edges of your selection are all the way to the left and top of the image area. Similarly, you can end your drag outside and to the right of the image area. When you do this, your selected area will automatically be adjusted to be at the left, top, and rightmost edges of the image*):

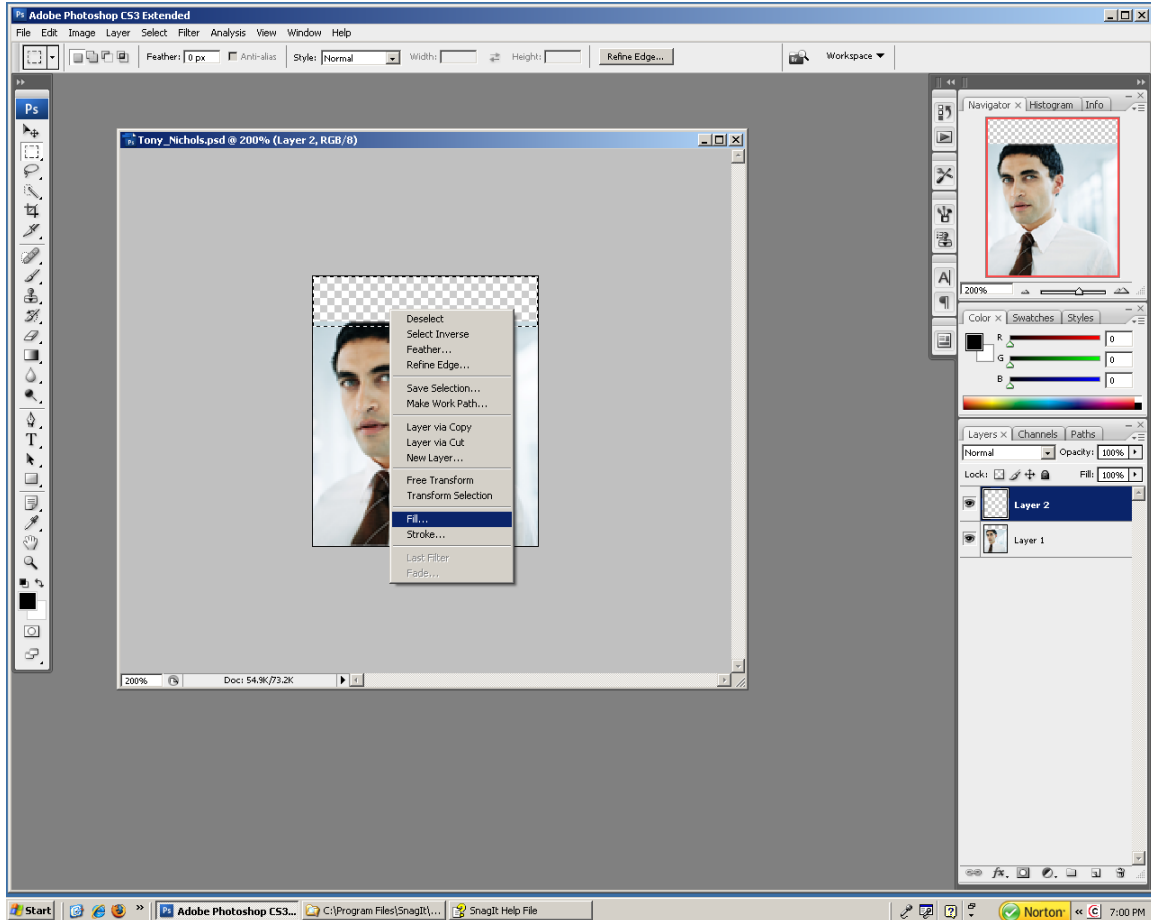


5. Create a new layer for the word balloon:

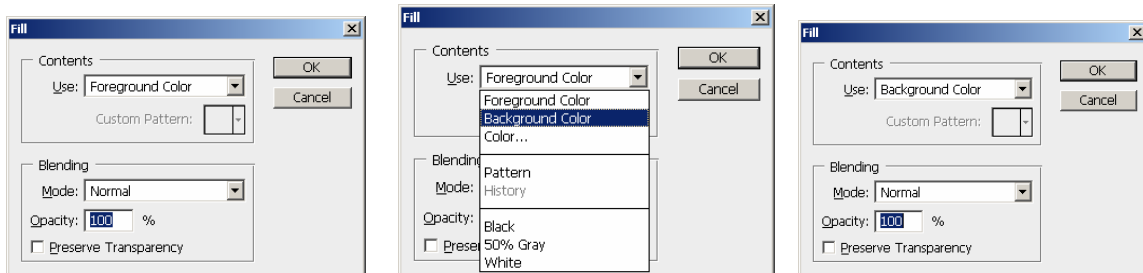


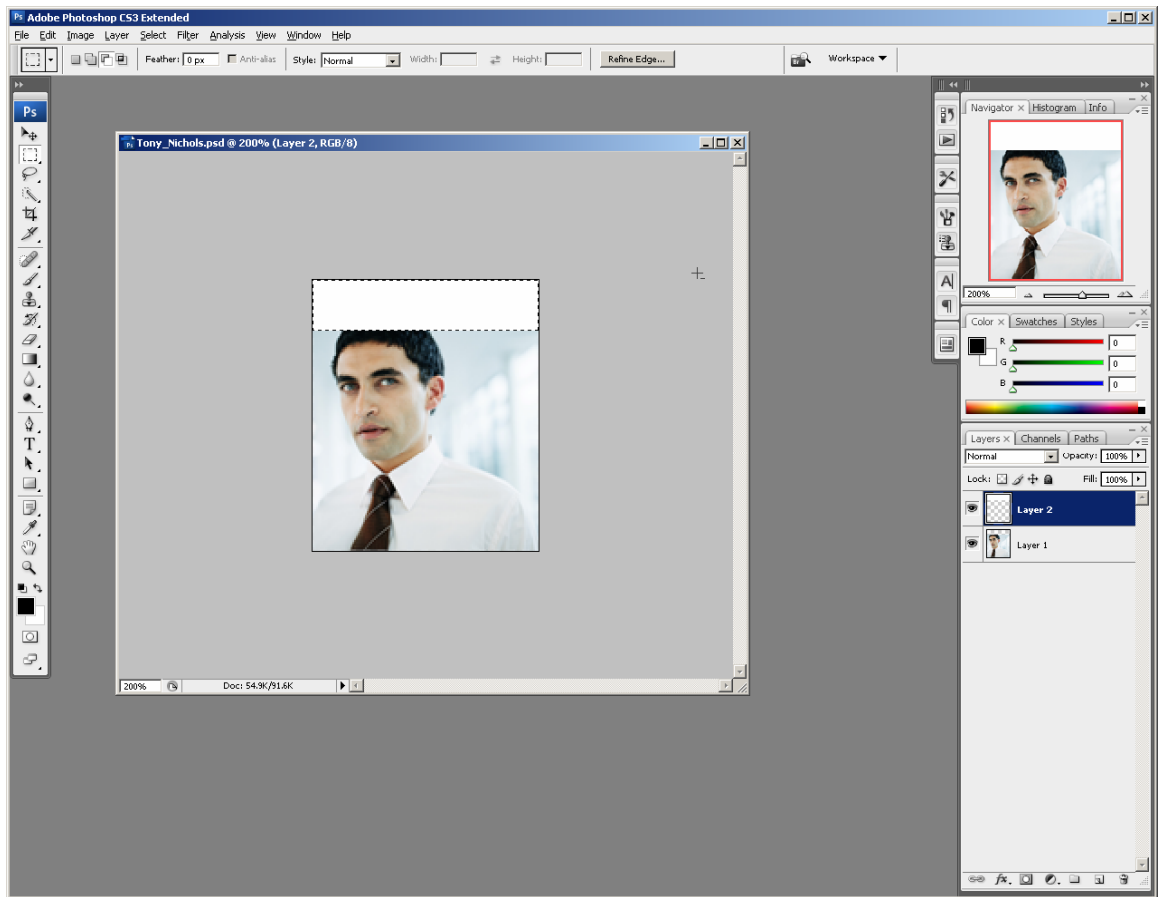


6. Right-click (Windows) or control-click (Mac)

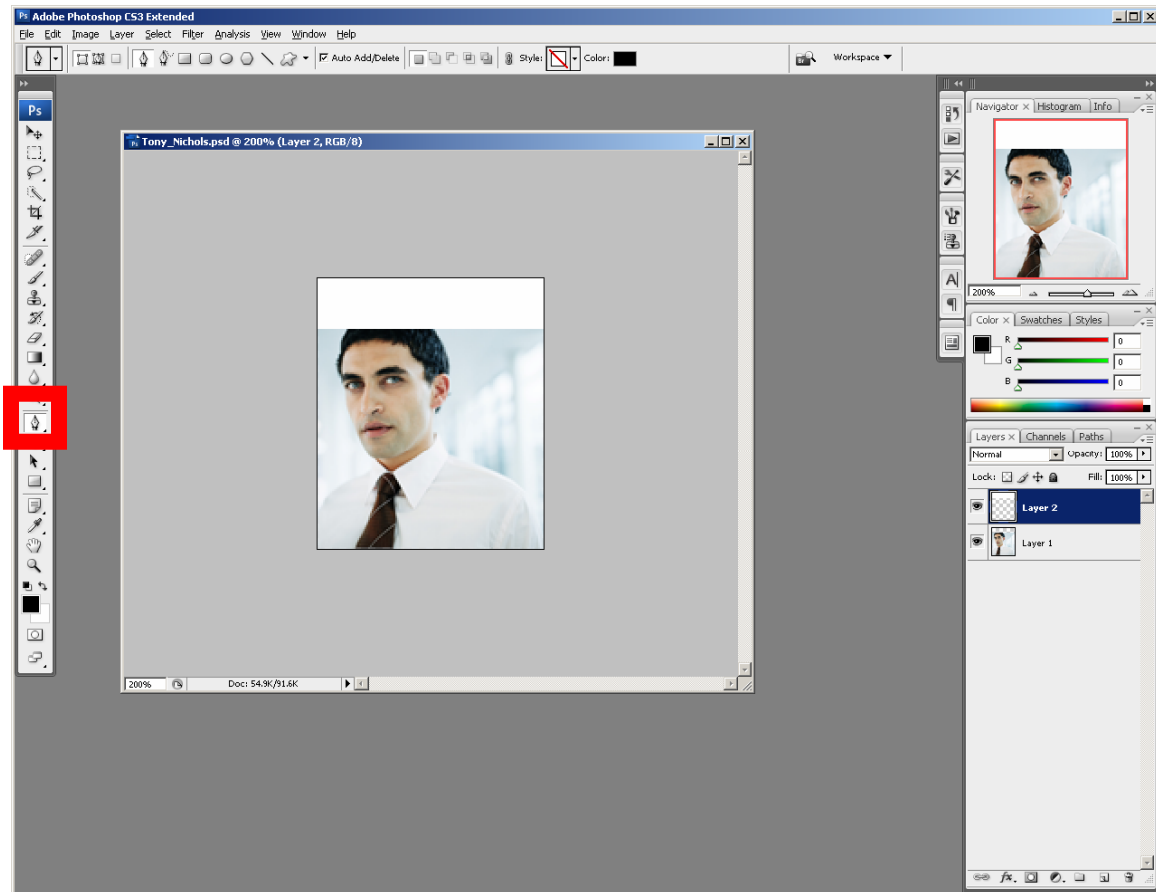


Since it's the background color that's set to white in this example, you need to change the **Use:** field to **Background Color**, then click **OK**:

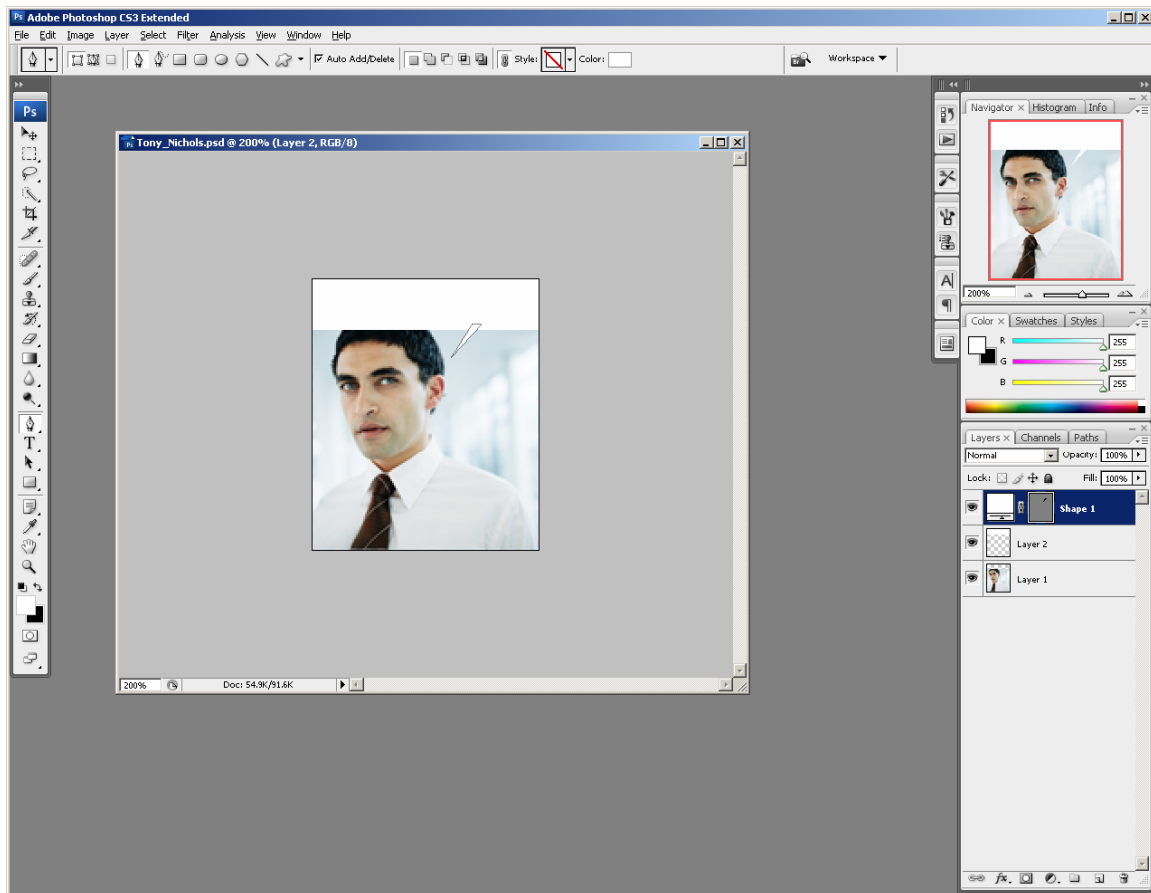




7. Use control-d (Windows) or command-d (Mac) to deselect. Then click the **Pen** tool from the tools palette:



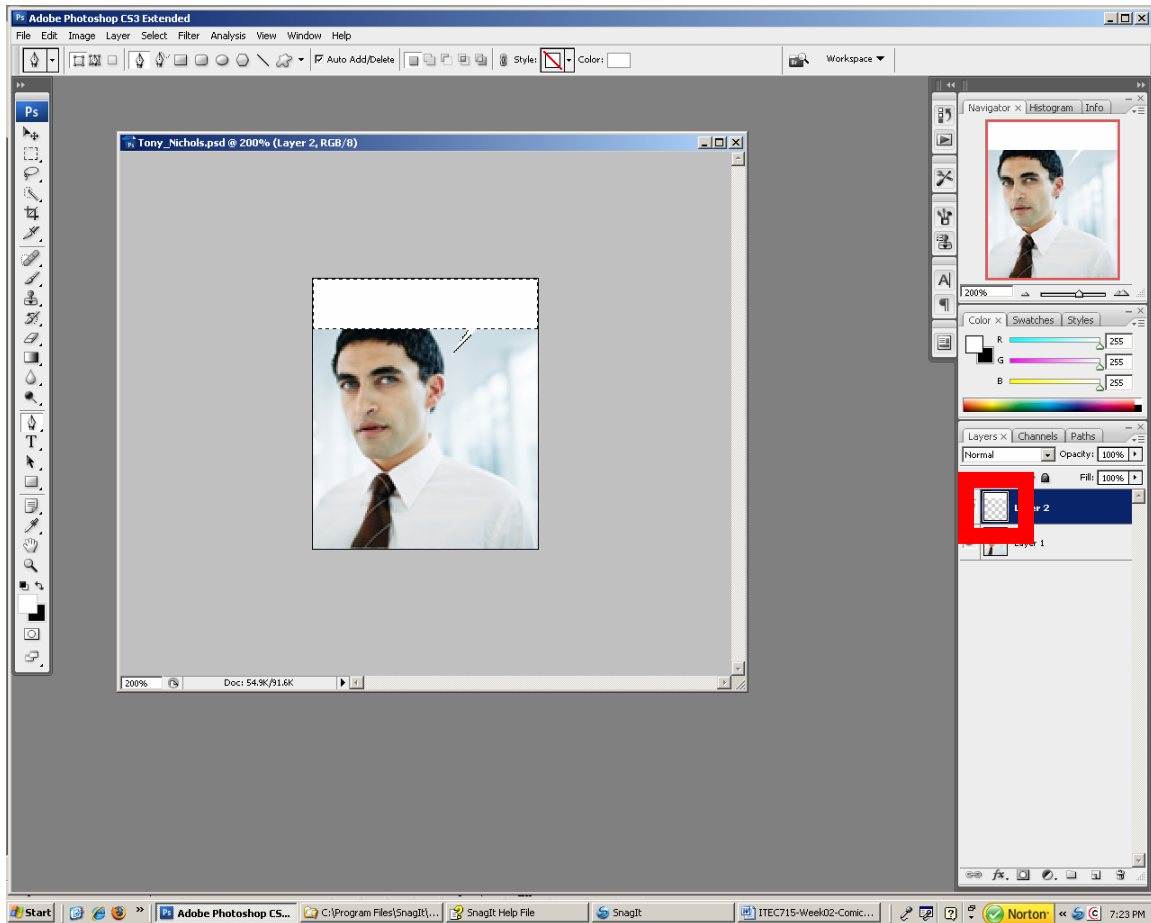
8. Make sure your foreground color is white (in this example, you can just click the double-headed arrow between the foreground and background selectors near the bottom of the tool palette to swap them). Then, click three points of a triangle with two of the points located inside the rectangular word balloon region, and the middle point located outside the region. The point outside the region will become the tip of the word balloon funnel. After you've clicked the 3rd point of the triangle, click again on the first point to create a closed triangle shape (rather than just an angle with two sides):



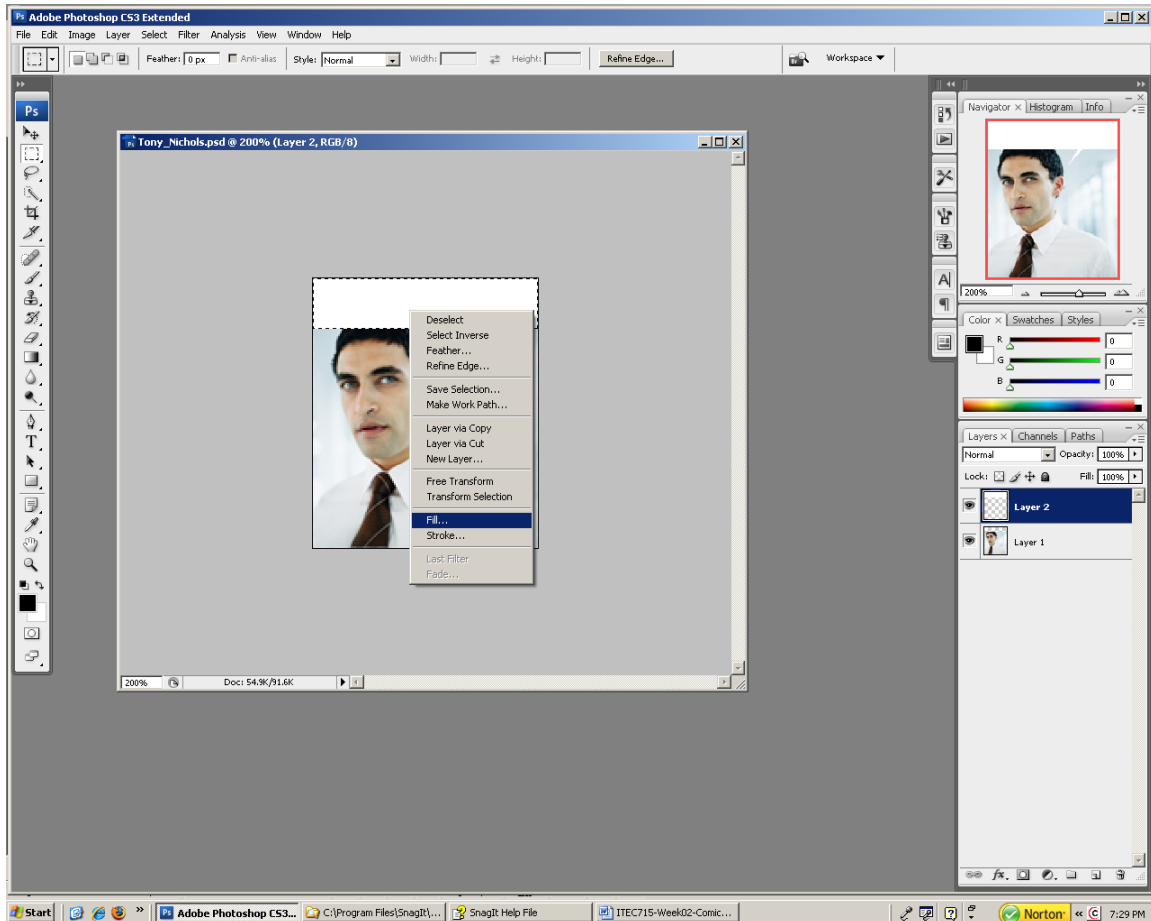
Notice that the pen tool's triangle was placed automatically on a new layer.

9. Next, merge Layer 3 (with the triangle) with Layer 2 (which contains the rectangular word balloon region). To merge a layer with the layer below it, select the layer (in this case Layer 3) by clicking it in the layer palette (if it's already blue, that means it's already selected so you don't need to re-select it in this case). Then use control-e (Windows) or command-e (Mac) to merge the selected layer with the one below it.

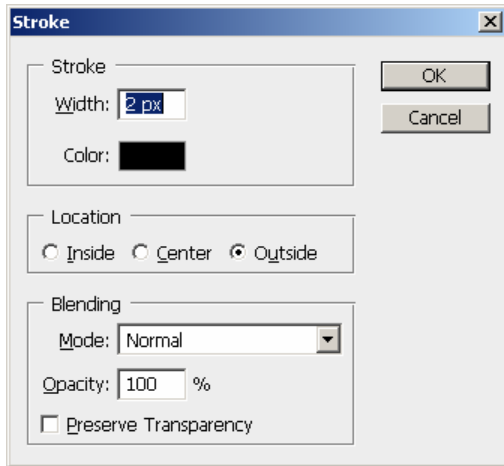
10. Now with the triangular funnel and the rectangular word balloon on the same layer, control-click (Windows) or command-click (Mac) the layer icon in the merged layer to select that layer:



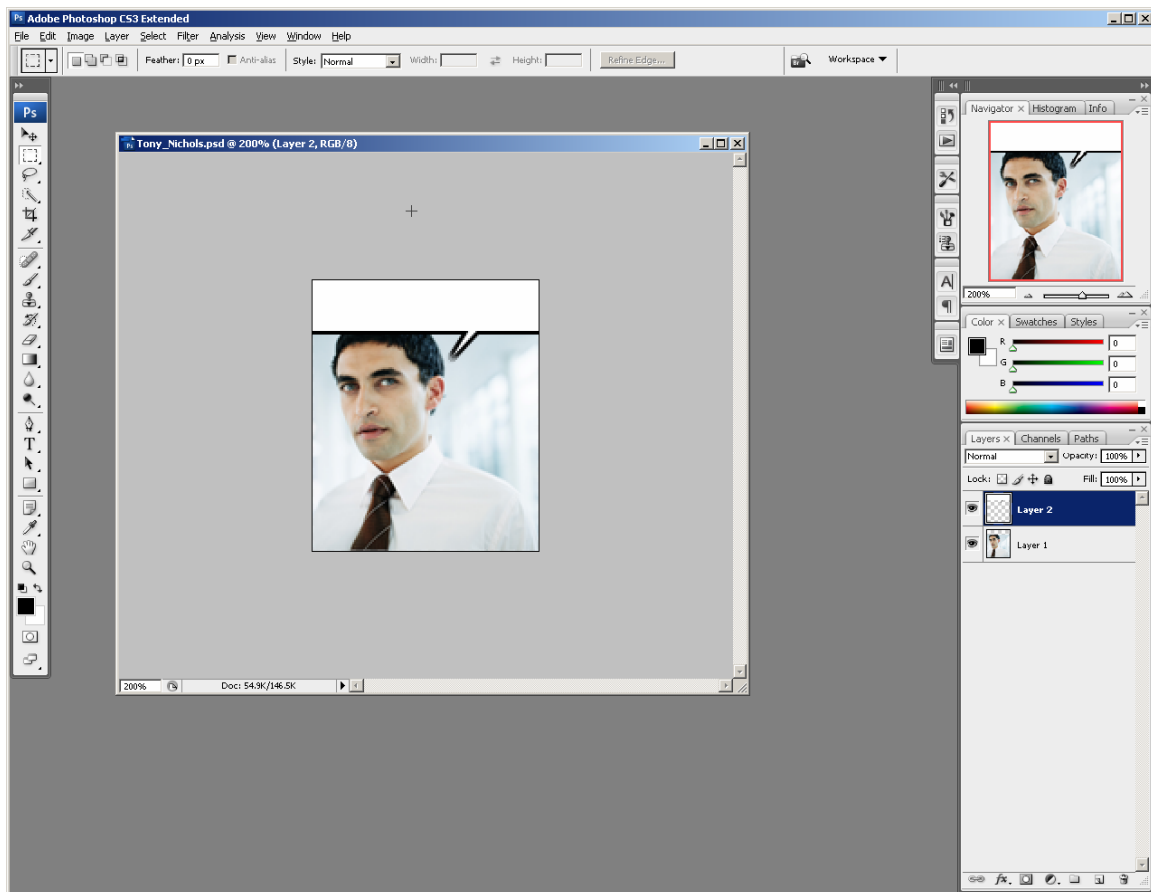
11. Now that the word balloon plus funnel are selected together, you can add a black stroke. First, make black your foreground color, either by swapping foreground and background colors or by double clicking the foreground color and entering 000000 in the # field at the bottom of the color selection window. Then, select the **marquee** tool from the tool palette, and right-click (Windows) or control-click (Mac) inside the selected region:



12. Choose **Stroke** from the pop-up menu, and then set the stroke color and width in the dialog box. Also choose whether you want the stroke to be inside, outside, or straddling the perimeter of the selection. In this case, choose outside. That will place the stroke along the left, top, and right edges outside the image area. (But that's ok, because later you will add a stroke around the inside of the entire image area, which will add the stroke line to the inside left, top, and right edges of the word balloon as well):



13. Click **OK**. Then click control-d (Windows) or command-d (Mac) to deselect:



14. That's the basic technique. To finish up you'd need to type in your text, add a blank layer to the top of the layer stack, add a stroke around the inside of it, and give your layers meaningful names.