

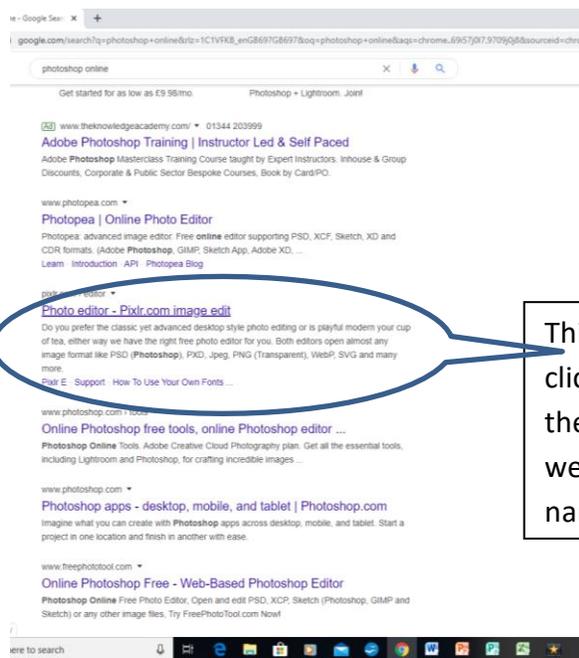
Using an Online Photo editor similar to Photoshop Elements

part 1 - uploading image and editing Part 2 – changing image shape adding text editing text

Hi Core Arts Computer students!

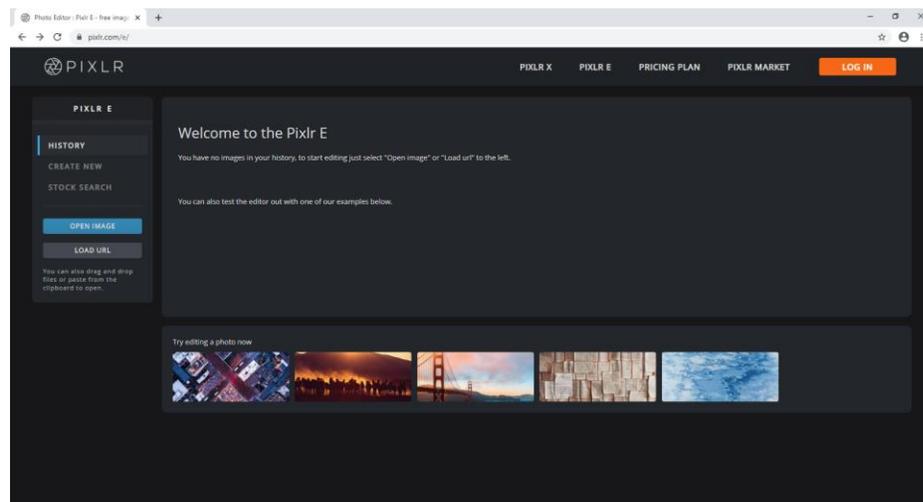
Kim Bennett –creative computer class 09-04-20

This is a short guide to using an online photo editor similar to Photoshop. If you have been missing the delights of Photoshop Elements to make cards, edit images or rotate and retouch your photos this is a useful online editor which I have used when not able to use PSE. Its called Pixlr . You can find it on www.pixlr.com. There are others- on the list below- but its one of the easiest with a well designed layout that's nice to use. You can also access it on a smart phone.



This is it- click on the website name

This is the opening home page



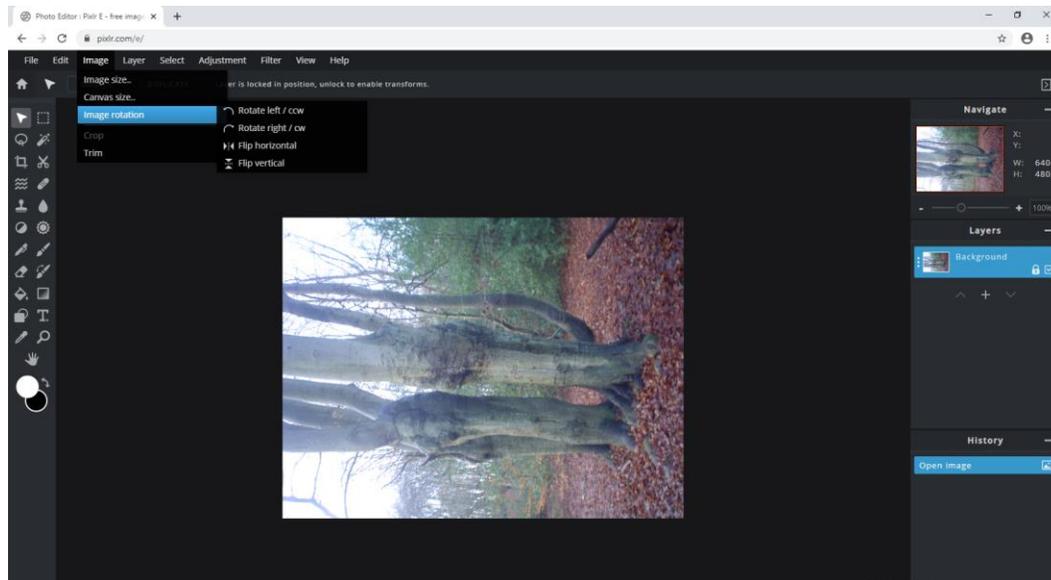
To start a new project you can click on 'create new', or 'open image' if you want to work on a photo you already have in your phone or on your computer.

This shows a photo uploaded from my photo library of some trees. Now you can change the colours, add text, add clips from other photos, change contrast, alter tones and create layers in the same way as in PS Elements.

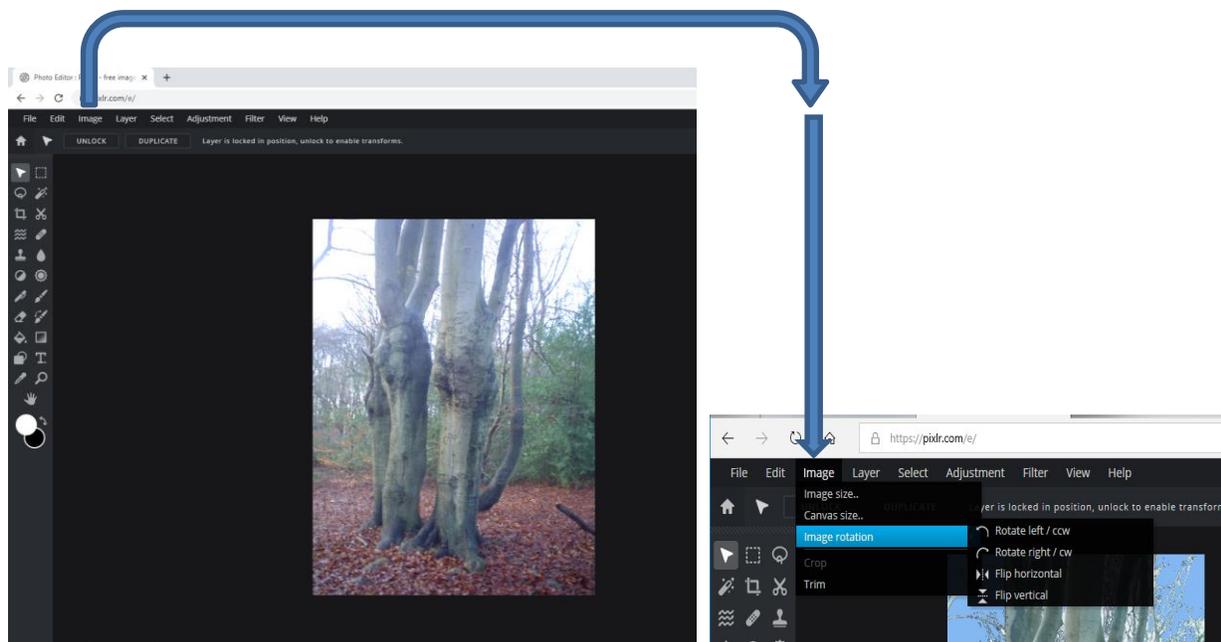
To upload an image select 'open image' – this lets you browse for an image saved in your photos.

As soon as the image uploads the tools on the sidebar on the left and menu on the top appear, similar to PSE.

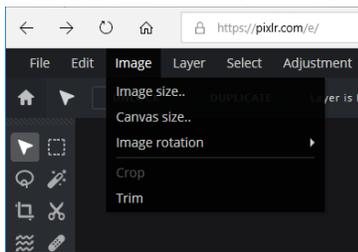
You can see the layers and history panels on the right.



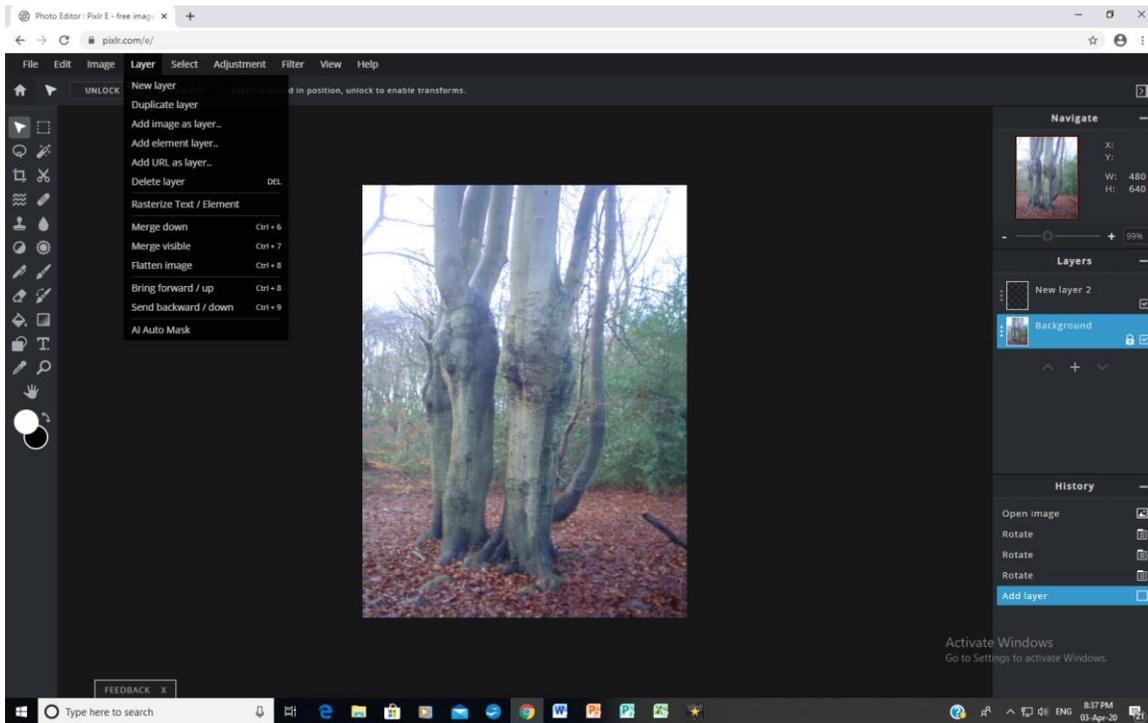
You can rotate the image – click on menu –'image' – select rotate right or left etc.



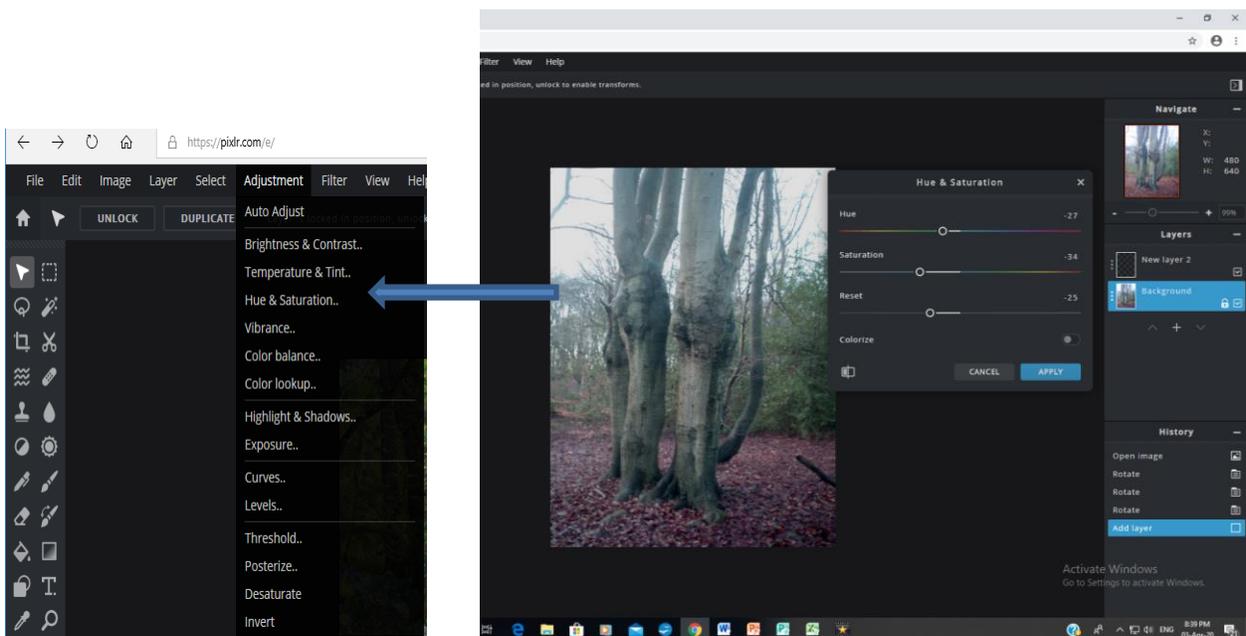
Create a new layer to use for importing another image clipping or a colour mask



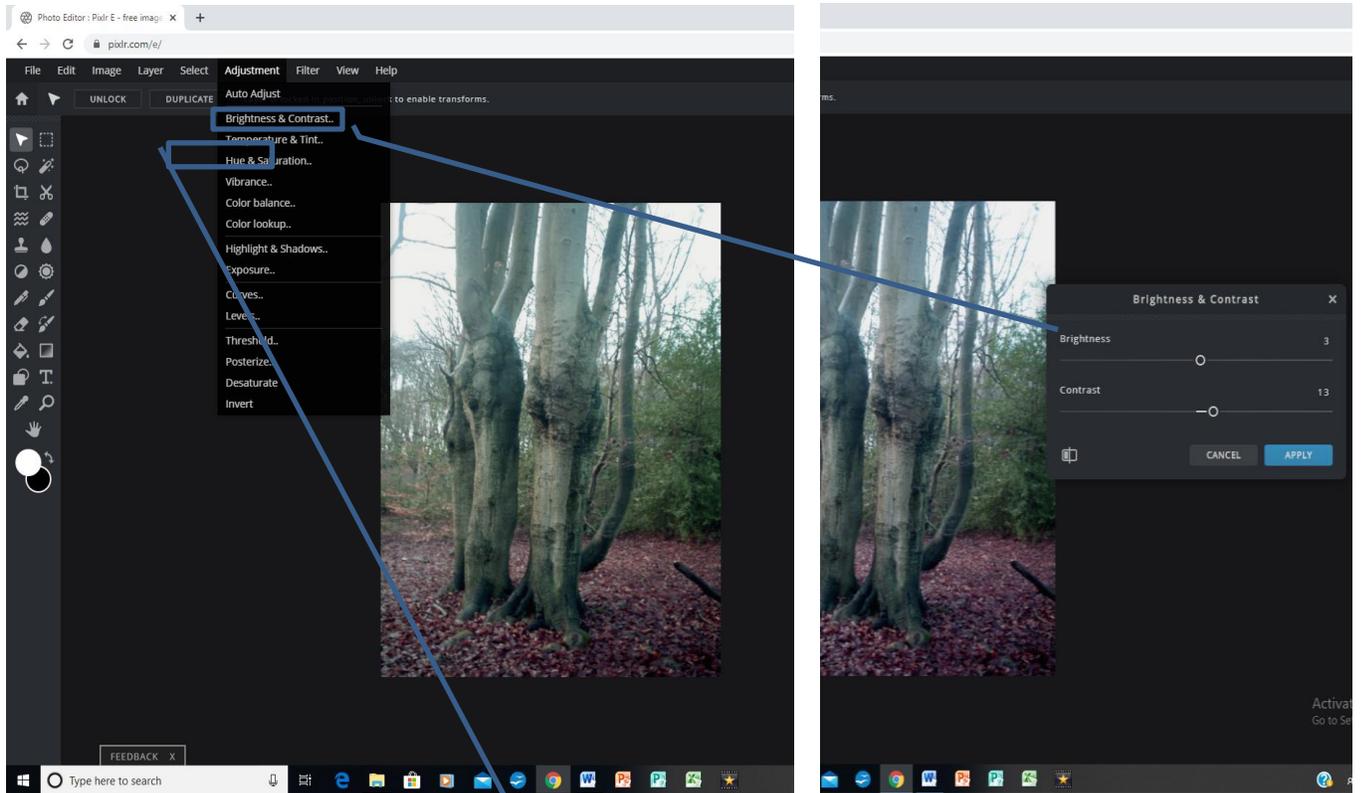
You can also change the image and /or canvas size and proportions



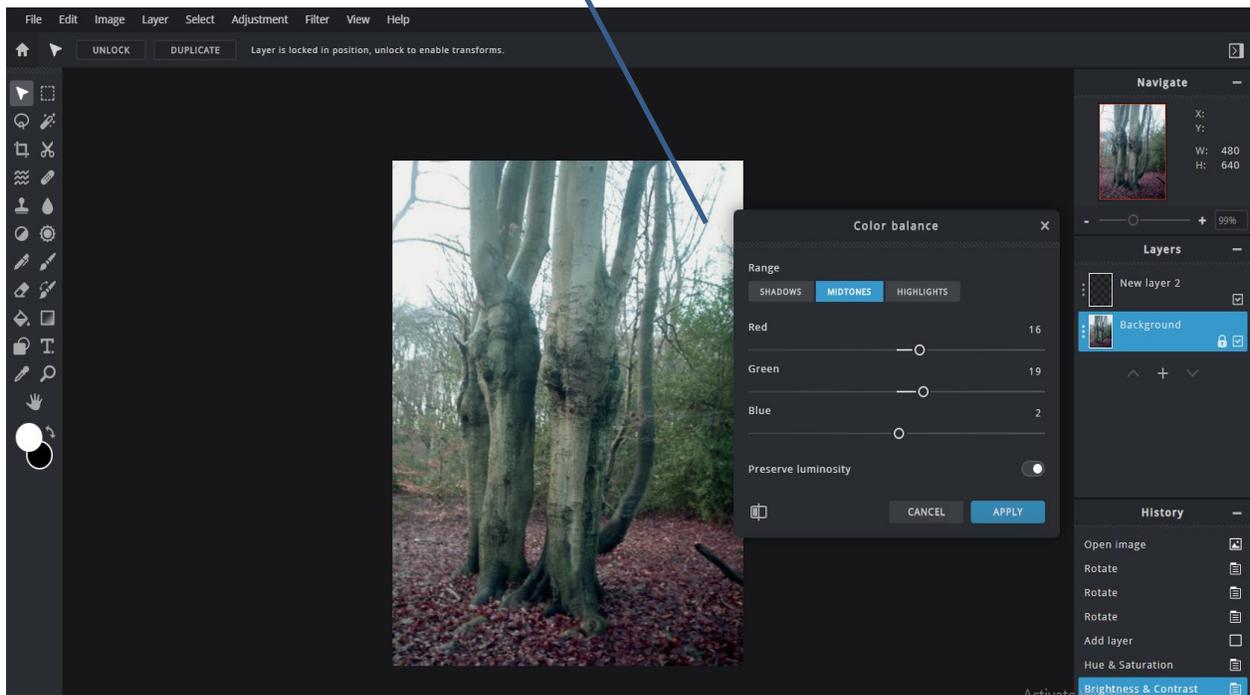
You can change the hue and saturation of the colours –lots of tools in the drop down menu; select Adjustment, then use the sliders to adjust the colours –hue changes the pigment of the colours , saturation changes the strength of colours in the picture.



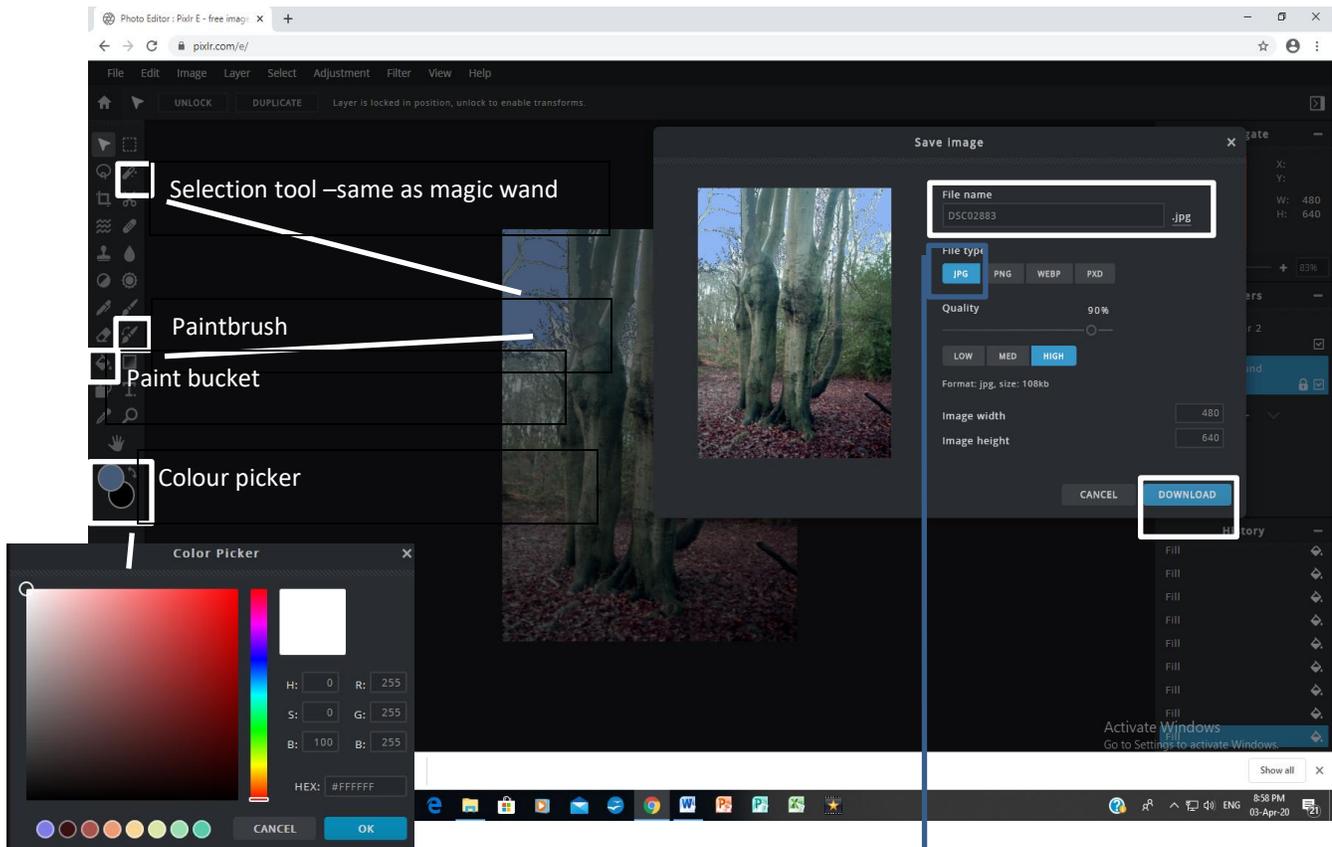
You can also change the brightness and contrast of the picture, move the sliders to reduce or increase lightness and contrast, which makes darks and light areas more or less strong.



Colour balance



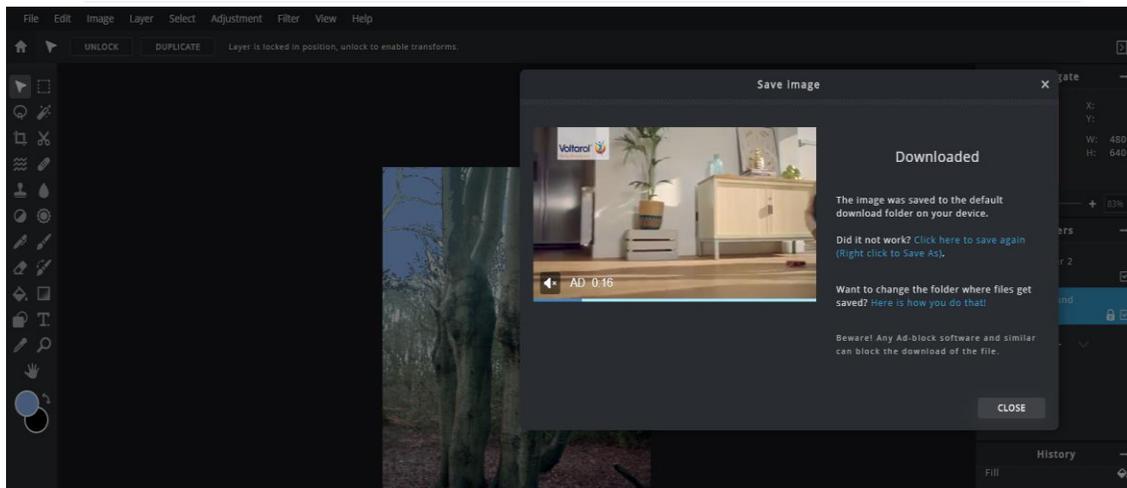
Change colours in the picture using the 'magic wand' selection tool and paintbrush or bucket. Select areas, as you do in PSE, and then add colour, click on the colour disc to bring up colour picker panel, select colour you want. Then use brushes, or paint bucket to add colours to areas you want to change.



When you're ready to save the image you can save it the same way as you would offline, you go to file –save, the choose file type options –JPG, the usual photo format, PNG –often used for internet, and PXD which is the format native to the pixlr application, you need to download the app to save in that format. Use JPG for most purposes.

You can select quality , and give the image a name. When ready, you select Download.

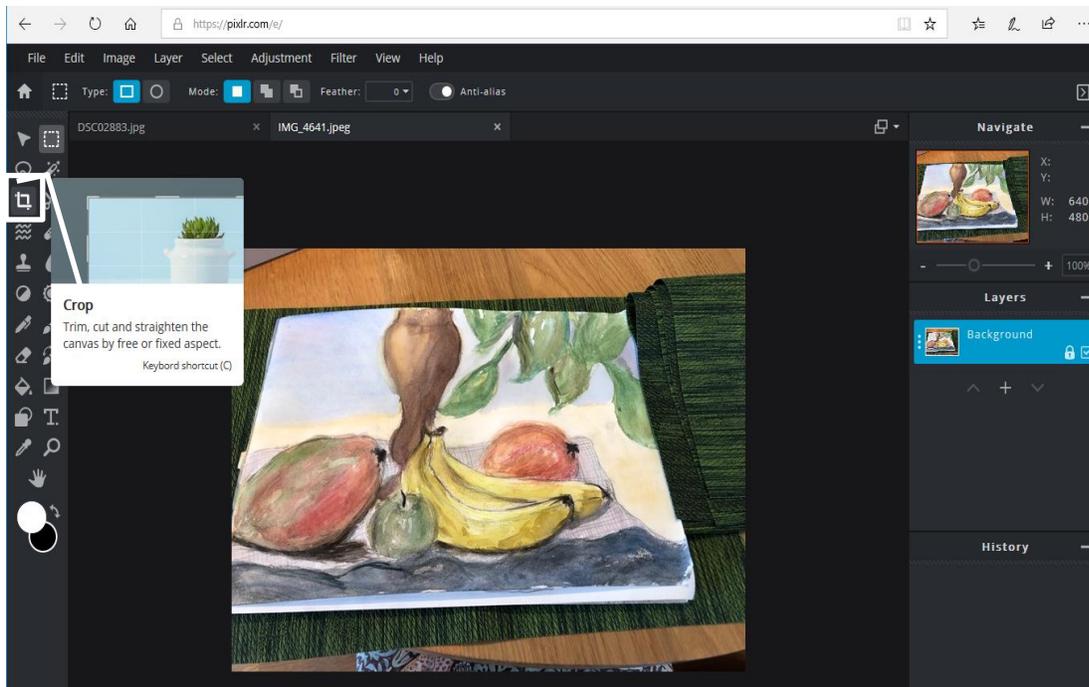
When download is complete you get this message – now your altered picture is saved in your downloads folder – you can move it from there to use it for other projects.



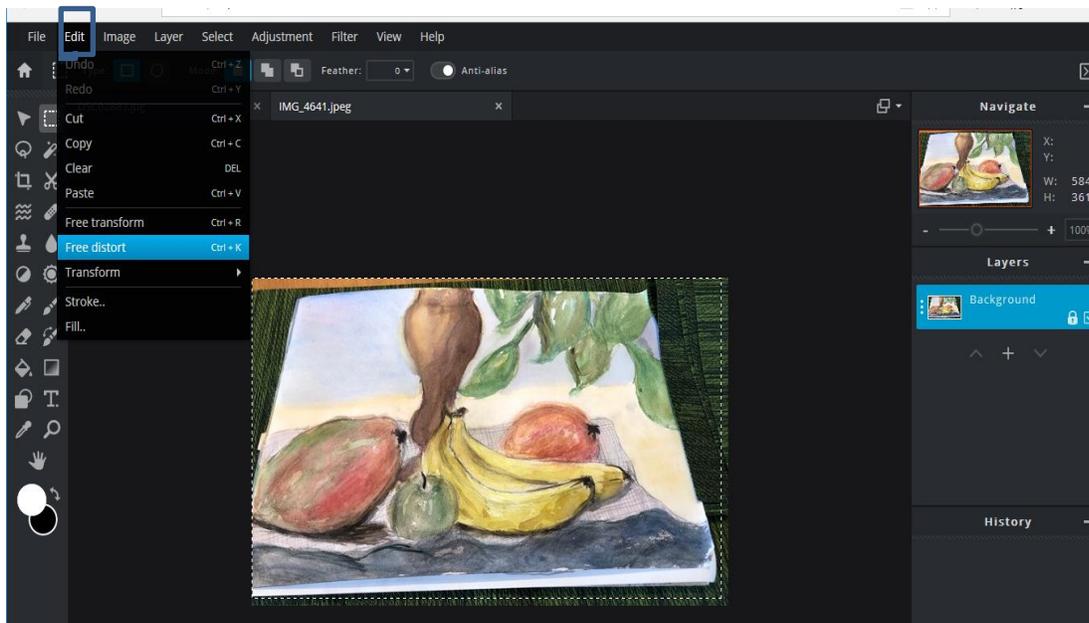
Adding Text to an image in Pixlr

Here is another project showing a very useful tool that PSE has and also available in this online Pixlr app.

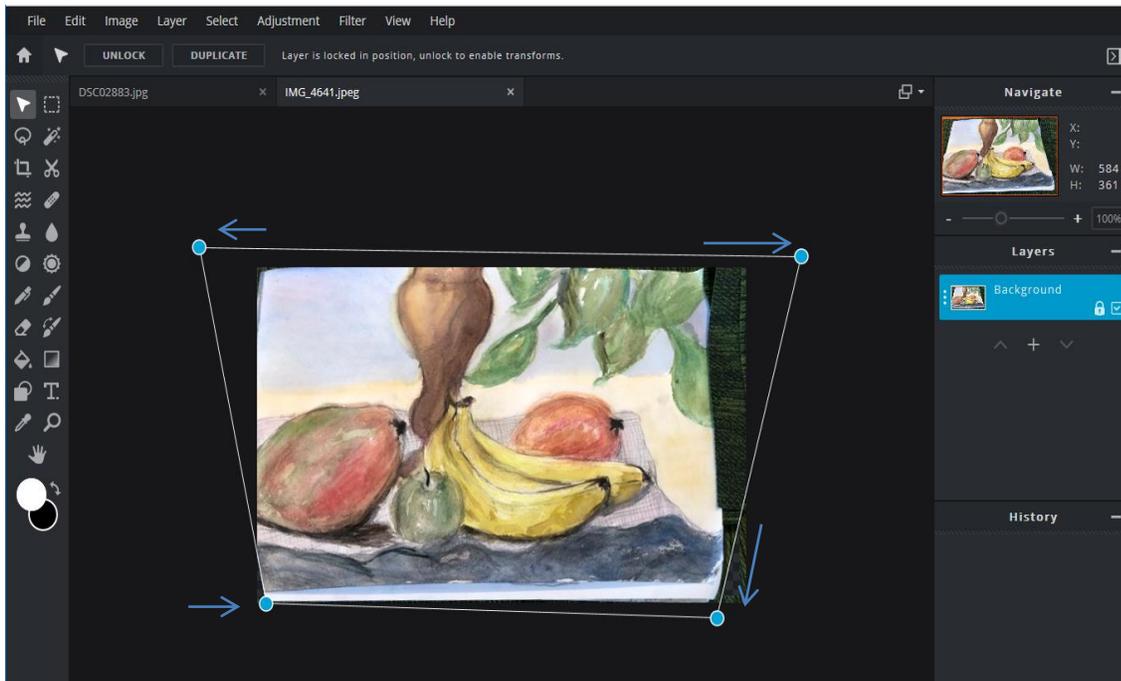
It's the free transform- free distort tools. If you take a photo that shows something on a table it will be in perspective, you can change this into an upright image



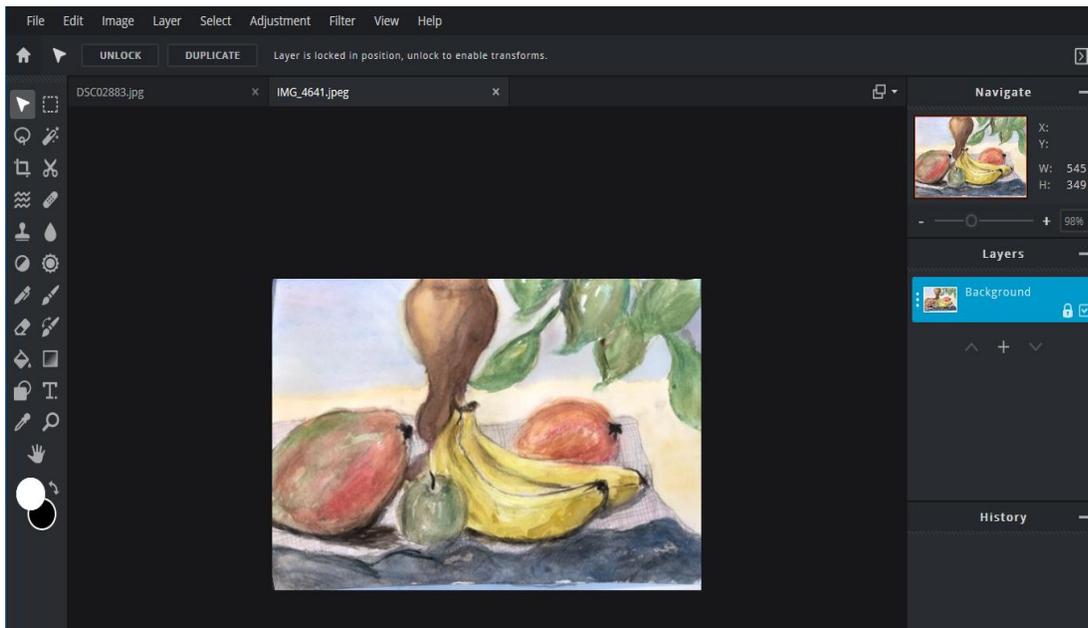
First you can crop the image so that more of the background is deleted. Select the crop tool, same as PSE; draw a selection rectangle over the area you want to keep, then press Enter (return) key.



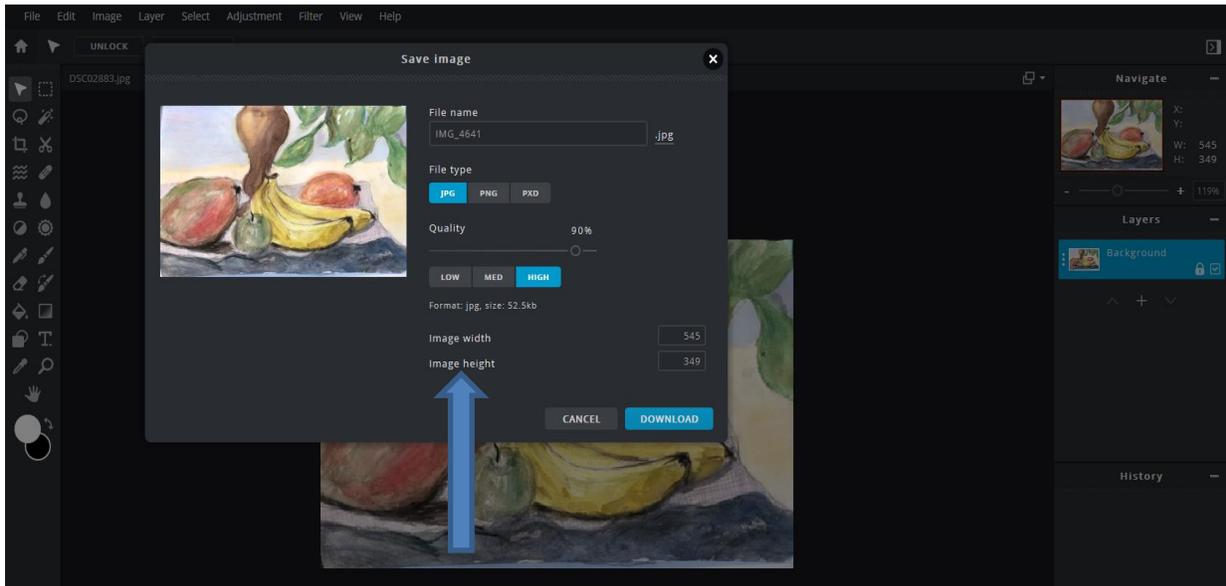
Now you can alter the shape with the 'Free Distort' tool, found under the 'Edit' menu at the top of the work area



When you select this tool you see blue discs at each corner – click and drag them to alter the shape. You can move them in any direction. You can crop and resize it as well if you want to.

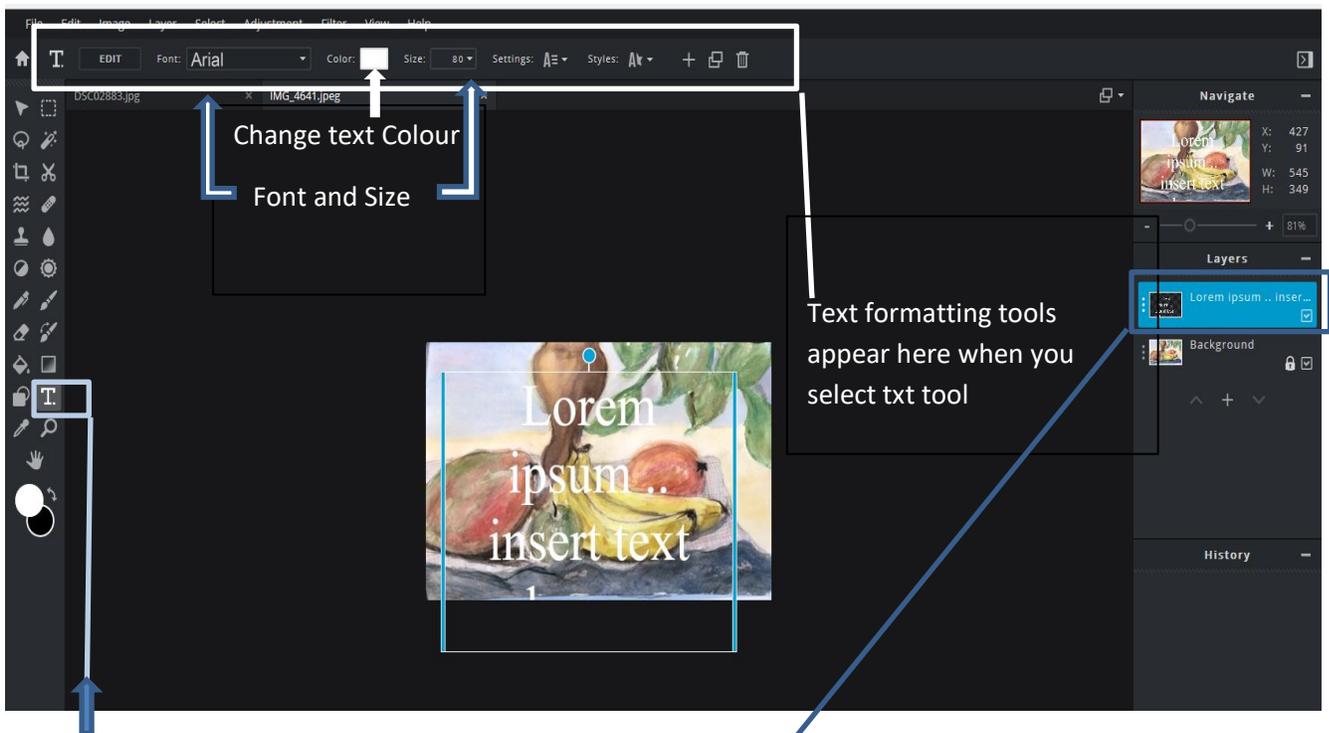


Once you've decided its finished you can save and download it.

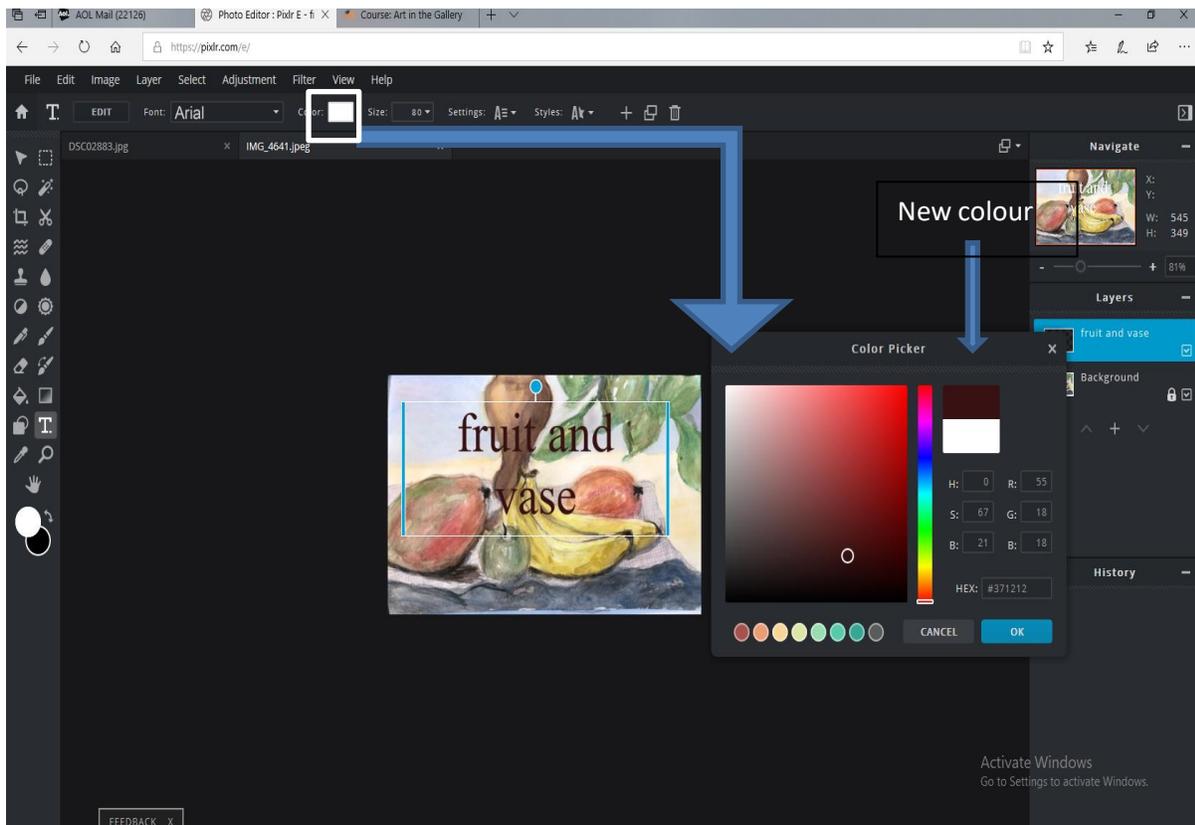


Saving and downloading the image.

If you decide to use the image again you can upload it again, this time I'm adding text to the image.

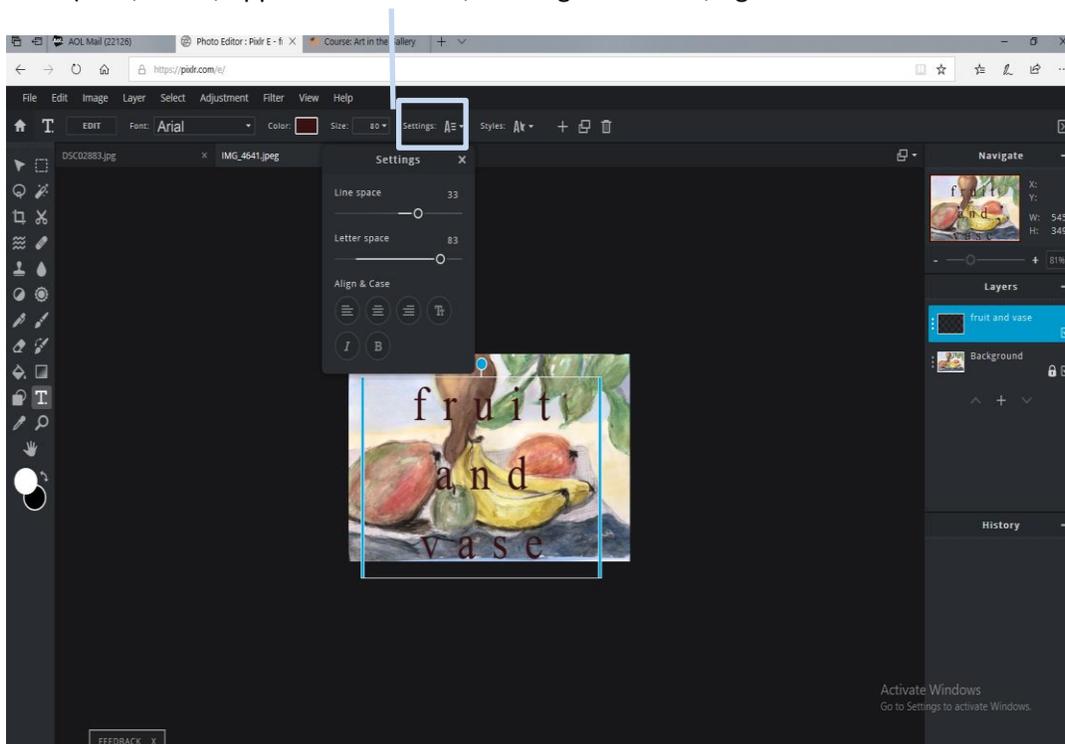


Text tool –click on this to bring up a text box with ‘placeholder’ text ‘Lorem Ipsum’ etc– click on it to delete it and type your own text. When you add text it goes into a new layer which is the same as in PSE. You can edit the text independently to the image, and hide it if you want to work on the image.



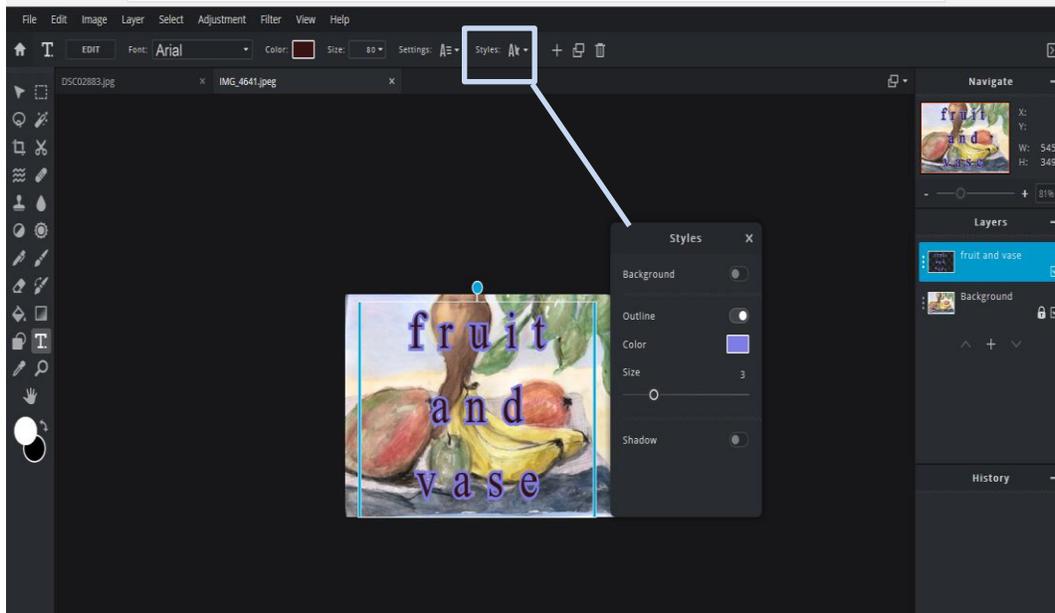
Change the colour of the text by clicking on the colour square – colour picker panel comes up, choose a new colour

You can refine your text by using text settings – this lets you change the letter spacing and line spacing, case (bold, italics, upper or lower case, and alignment- left, right or centred

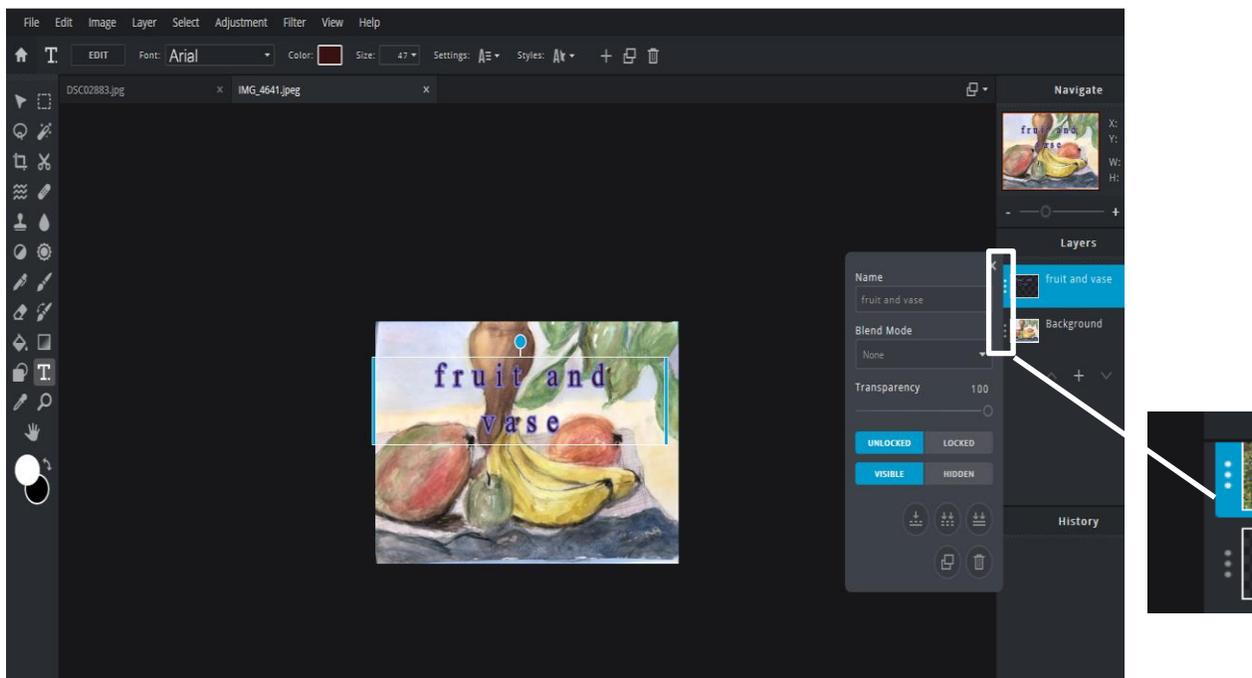


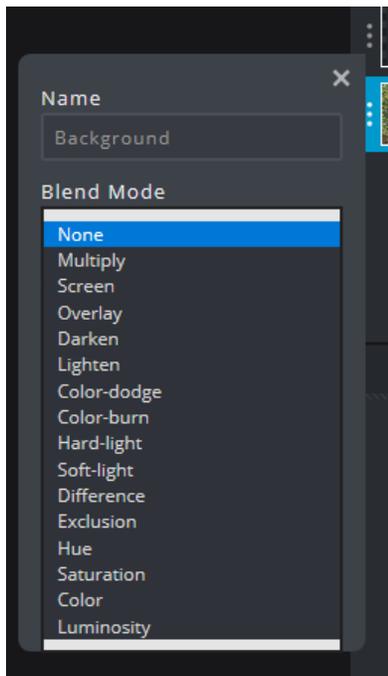
This shows how you can add text styles which lets you add an outline to the text, change the colour of the background of the textbox, and make a shadow effect around the letters.

This shows the outline colour and size of the outline being changed to a lilac colour



On the layers panel there are functions you can access by clicking on the three small dots on the left edge of the layer panel. These include making a layer transparent, naming the layer, locking or hiding, and merging with the next layer, or flattening all the layers into one. The blending mode gives you all the filters for editing artwork.





Blending filters for changing layers - experiment with them!

You can save and download your image when finished.