Pattern Brushes (Chain)

Task: Make 6 distinct Pattern Brushes (in addition to the one below) with a mind to employ them in your future class output.
Apply one or more to:
1) text converted into outlines
2) something with square corners (use brush you made in steps 10 and 11); and simple paths of your own choosing enough to demonstrate the six pattern brushes you have made; all on a single page, large enough to be easily seen.

1. Draw an ellipse with a thick stroke.
2. Select the ellipse (stroke to color, fill to none) and use rulers, guides and/or grid to Scissor Tool it into four equal sections North, South, East, and West.
3. Select the four curves with the Direct Select Tool *completely* (all anchor points filled) and Object>Path>Outline Stroke.
4. To make right-hand link, select upper and lower portion of the link's LEFT side and Option/Shift Copy it over to the RIGHT side, overlapping to taste, then change their color. Hold down Shift key and/or use Smart Guides to keep alignment precise. Repeat to make right-hand link, but vice versa.
5. Object>Arrange the pieces to taste (I like a nice under/over) and/or variations of size and color. You may need to reduce the size to make the brush work better.
6. Select and drag the brush into the brushes palette. Choose 'new pattern brush' then name the brush and click OK, accepting the defaults.
7. Apply new brush to any selected path (better not to brush with it). Adjust size by reducing original and making a new brush, or double-click the brush inside the brushes palette and reduce its scale in the dialog box.
8. To make custom corners to fit a square path, make a separate object to represent the corners. Drag the object for the 'straight' segment into the swatches palette, double-click and name it *straight*. Drag the object for the 'corner' segment into the swatches palette, double-click and name it *corner*.
9. In brushes palette, click 'new brush' button. Select new pattern brush and click okay. Assign segments from list in dialog box to straights and corners and click okay. Now apply this brush to an object with square corners to see if you got it right. Fix if necessary.
10. Save custom pattern brushes from brush palette fly-out menu onto the hard drive of the computer where you sit in the Adobe Illustrator CS4 Presets>Brushes folder, OR save to any accessible media for re-use anytime.<some artists carry their digital brushes around like a painter carries paint brushes>

Notes:

Try different shapes besides an ellipse. Try applying effects before you make the brush, like zig-zag (or others), but bear in mind you need to maintain strong symmetry for the

brush to apply evenly to a path. Some brushes, though, are completely haphazard; anything can be made into a brush (or a symbol)! This is the kind of thing you might include in a larger illustration, a small detail that makes all the difference!