

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Analyzing Political Cartoons

### Identifying the Main Idea of the Political Cartoon

Political cartoons are used to present a strong visual message or point of view on a topic of current interest.

1. What political event or idea is the cartoon referring to?

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2. What key people or groups are part of the cartoon's message?

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3. How has the cartoonist depicted these people? Explain any symbols used by the cartoonist to portray people or countries.

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4. Identify any captions, titles, labels, or speech bubbles in the cartoon. How do these contribute to the cartoon's message?

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5. What is the message of this cartoon? How is the cartoonist trying to persuade the reader?

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**Analyzing the Method Used by the Cartoonist**

Cartoonists use a number of methods to convey their message including humor, caricature (an exaggerated drawing in which features are distorted), satire, and symbolism. Use the questions below to help analyze the cartoonist's method.

6. Is the cartoon drawn realistically or are the characters distorted? Does the way the characters are drawn cast them in a positive or a negative light? Why do you think the cartoonist chose to use this style?

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7. Is the cartoon funny or is it serious? Explain how the method chosen by the cartoonist effectively conveys a political message.

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8. What drawings, captions, or labels does the cartoonist use to grab the reader's attention? What did you notice first about the cartoon?

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9. Do you think cartoons are a good way to convey political messages? Explain why or why not.

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