

# Read political cartoons *closely*



- Look at the picture. Determine the who, what, where, and when of the topic or issue.
  - Look at all text provided (e.g., on signs, in speech bubbles, on clothing, etc.). What information are you gathering?
  - What visual symbols does the cartoonist use and what do they represent? How do you know?
  - When was the cartoon published? Does that impact the message?
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- What stereotypes can you identify in this cartoon?
  - How do these symbols/associations make the reader feel about \_\_\_\_?
  - Who is the intended audience for the cartoon?
  - What is the cartoonist's purpose? What is his perspective? (Is this cartoonist advocating for \_\_\_ or \_\_\_? How do you know?)
  - How do the audience's experiences, emotions, assumptions, and stereotypes influence how the cartoonist drew his message?
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- How does the cartoon help you further understand the debate over \_\_\_\_ [topic/issue]?
- How effective is this cartoon in conveying the artist's argument?
- Evaluate the cartoonist's use of persuasive techniques. Do the choices in symbolism, irony, hyperbole, &/or satire strengthen or weaken his argument?