

Political Cartoon Questions

Directions: Read "Political Cartoons: An Introduction" and "Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)" to answer the following questions.

1. What is a political cartoon?
2. What are the 7 devices of Political Cartoons?
3. According to Charles Press, what is needed in order for a political cartoon to be effective?
4. Who is Geisel? And, how many political cartoons did Geisel create during World War II?
5. What are some of the subjects of Geisel's political cartoons?

Analyzing Political Cartoons

Directions: Choose **TWO** of the featured cartoons and answer the following questions. Keep in mind the qualities needed for an effective cartoon and the commonly used devices discussed in the Political Cartoons page.

Cartoon 1 Chosen: _____ Cartoon 2 Chosen: _____

1. What is the main message of the cartoon?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

2. What event, issue or person does the cartoon refer to or target?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

3. Is the cartoon trying to persuade or inform? If so, what and how?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

4. What reaction or impact is Geisel looking for?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

5. What devices are used to get this message across? (Refer to #2 from Political Cartoon Questions for devices)

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

6. Choose one of these devices and discuss it in detail.

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

7. How has Geisel drawn the people/animals? Are they distorted or exaggerated? How does this affect the impact of the cartoon?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

8. Is the cartoon effective? Why or why not?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

9. What would make this cartoon more effective?

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cartoon 1 | Cartoon 2 |
|-----------|-----------|

10. Do you think cartoons are a good way of communicating a social or political message? Why or why not?

11. CREATE YOUR OWN WORLD WAR II POLITICAL CARTOON ON A PIECE OF BLANK PAPER.

12. What "devices" did you use in your cartoon and why?