

5 Strategies for teaching Political Cartoons

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1 TACOS

2 Partner drawing

3 Act it out

4 Quadrants

5 Image manipulation

Political Cartoons

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TACOS

Title



Action(s)

Caption(s)

Object(s)

Summary

5 STRATEGIES
FOR TEACHING

Political Cartoons

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Political Cartoons



2 Partner drawing



Make a prediction.

What do you think is most important in this cartoon?

Political Cartoons

SOCIALLY *it*

3

Act it out

KINDLY MOVE OVER A LITTLE, GENTLEMEN



- Where do you think they are?
- What emotion are they showing?
- Who are they looking at?
- What do they want?
- Who is talking?
- Who are they talking to?
- Who is receiving a drink?
- Why do you think that is?
- How do you know that?
- What is the message of the cartoon?

5 STRATEGIES
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Political Cartoons

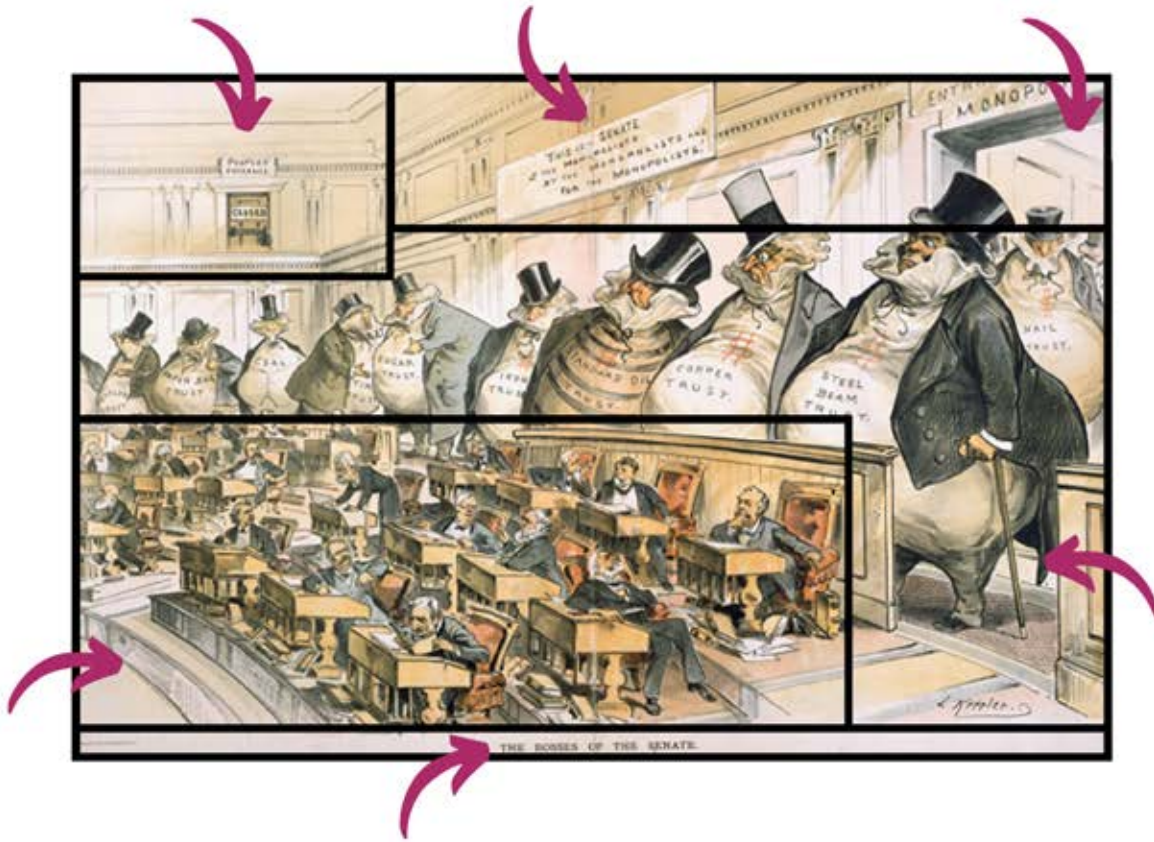


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Political Cartoons

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4 Quadrants



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5 Image manipulation



BG Remover



Magic Eraser



Magic Expand



Magic Edit



Magic Grab



Grab Text

Strategies for Teaching Political Cartoons

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Introduction

Political cartoons provide a unique perspective on historical and current events, offering both entertainment and insight. However, their symbolic and often subtle nature can make them difficult to interpret, particularly for students. This guide provides several effective strategies for teaching political cartoons, helping students to engage with and understand this powerful form of communication.

1. TACOS

The TACOS method stands for Title, Action, Caption, Object, and Summary. This is a comprehensive approach to analyzing a political cartoon. Let's take, for example, a cartoon titled "Qualifying Test for Supreme Court Jobs".

- **Title:** "Qualifying Test for Supreme Court Jobs"
- **Action:** Speaking, writing
- **Caption:** "Great! Now, once more all together!" "YES!"
- **Object:** Trash can, courtroom, papers, light
- **Summary:** This cartoon suggests that FDR will appoint any Supreme Court Justice who is willing to agree with him.

2. Partner Drawing

This exercise encourages collaboration and communication. In this activity, one person describes a cartoon to their partner, who then attempts to draw it based on the description alone. This helps students pay close attention to the details and nuances of political cartoons.

3. Act It Out

Acting out a political cartoon can help students get into the mindset of the characters and think more deeply about the messages being conveyed. By considering questions like "Where do you think they are?", "What emotion are they showing?", and "Who are they looking at?", students can gain a deeper understanding of the cartoon.

4. Quadrants

Dividing the cartoon into quadrants allows students to focus on each section of the cartoon individually, making it easier to analyze. For example, in the cartoon "The Bosses of the Senate", students can examine each quadrant for important elements like the Sugar Trust, Standard Oil Trust, Copper Trust, People's Entrance, and messages like "This is the Senate of the Monopolists, by the Monopolists and for the Monopolists!".

5. Image Manipulation

Using image editing tools like CANVA.com, students can modify political cartoons, perhaps to change their message or to modernize them. This activity not only helps students understand the elements of political cartoons but also encourages creativity and critical thinking. These strategies can make the task of interpreting political cartoons more manageable and fun for students, enhancing their understanding of both the cartoons themselves and the historical or current events they depict.

The Art of Teaching Cartoons

Strategies abound, teachings profound,
 @SociallyStudy, where knowledge is found.
 One of her methods, oh so wise,
 Is **TACOS**, a strategy that lies,
 In Titles, Actions, Captions all,
 Objects, Summary, they never fall.
 Then comes the **Partner Drawing**, neat,
 With two minds together, none can beat.
 One faces the board, the other away,
 Describing the cartoon in a playful way.
 '**Act it out**', she says with glee,
 Emotions, desires, for all to see.
 Who's talking, who's not, what do they want?
 Each question a clue, each answer a flaunt.
Quadrants, she says, hold the key,
 To understanding, to truly see.
The Bosses of the Senate, in their might,
 Reveal truths hidden from plain sight.
Image manipulation, a tool so grand,
 CANVA.com, at her command.
 Shapes and colors, all in tune,
 Speak louder than words, beneath the moon.
 Apryl Taylor, with her strategies so bright,
 Teaches political cartoons, in the soft moonlight.