

Cartoon

Five steps with guiding questions to help you understand and analyze the primary source

1 Identify the Source	When was this cartoon created?
	Where was this cartoon created?
	What publication ran the cartoon?
2 Place the Source in Context	What is the historical context of this cartoon?
	What people, objects, or other elements can you identify in the cartoon?
	What is the message or opinion relayed in the cartoon?
	What makes the cartoon funny or insightful or critical?
3 Analyze the Source Content	What is happening in the cartoon?
	What is the message or opinion relayed in the cartoon?
	Who or what does the cartoon target?
	What makes the cartoon funny or insightful or critical?
4 Assess the Source Perspective	How does the creator of the cartoon convey information and make a point?
	Does the cartoon have a particular bias or perspective?
	Does the creator try to motivate or convince people using this cartoon? If so, how?
	How do you think viewers reacted to the cartoon?
5 Evaluate the Source	Do you think this cartoon is an effective one? Did it amuse people or make them think?
	Why was this cartoon important to the people who created and viewed it, and why is important now for what it can tell us?
	What connections can you make from this cartoon to politics, issues, culture and society, faith and religion, and historical change over time?
	Does comparing this cartoon with other sources, past or present, provide valuable insight?
	How can you tie this cartoon into key themes, questions, controversies, and debates?