

Suggested activities and skills practice

Interpreting cartoons	Activities	Extension
Find out the historical context.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research the time when a cartoon was created, and the events featured in the cartoon. 	Find other primary sources
Identify cartoonist's techniques. [These are explained in the cartoon recording sheet]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find several cartoons from a range of historical periods and look at different cartoonist techniques. Google: Prime Ministers: Clement Attlee/Margaret Thatcher/Boris Johnson to see how physical features are caricatured. List what makes an effective cartoon and find examples for your choices. Find five political cartoons dealing with one event, person, or issue. Select from range of newspapers or magazines. Explain which cartoon shows the most effective techniques. This activity can also help you to determine contemporary attitudes. Find a cartoon. Remove its caption, labels and dialogue and then replace with your own suggestions. Create your own cartoon about a topic that you are studying using one or more techniques of a cartoonist. Find a cartoon. Note down what you find out about your cartoon and its date, content, producer, and background. Work with a partner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What points do they make about the value of the cartoon selected? Share all your information about the cartoon. Has your partner pointed out anything new in their evaluation? Why is it important to have information about the context/background when looking at cartoons? 	Research the biographies of famous cartoonists: James Gillray, William Hogarth, George Cruikshank, David Low, Victor "Vicky" Weisz, Steve Bell, Matt
Work out a cartoonist's point of view	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at the cartoonist's techniques [see resource recording sheet] used to create an effective cartoon. Use them to try to identify the cartoonist's point of view in a cartoon of your choice. 	Select a cartoon from a particular point of view. Draw (or describe) a cartoon to show a different point of view.
Write a conclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish the historical context, identify techniques used and work out the cartoonist's point of view. Then summarize the main message and support your interpretation by referring to evidence in the cartoon. 	