

Name: _____ Hour: _____

Prewriting Plan for an Editorial/Political Cartoon

Create one or more illustrations that are designed to make people think about issues of the 1920's. Topics like prohibition, immigration, the scopes trial, flappers, the automobile, the Teapot Dome Scandal, and the Red Scare, could easily be analyzed in a political cartoon format. Try to sway the reader to your viewpoint. Remember political cartoons always take a position or stand.

What 1920's subtopic have you chosen?

Your perspective on the issue, or your position/stand on the event must be clear to the reader. Please explain your perspective/position.

Political cartoons are prejudiced and biased because they represent the artist's point of view, as does an editorial. They are intended to be controversial and characterized in nature. Their meaning is conveyed by both visual and verbal clues.

SATIRE - What idea, issue, or person do you want your cartoon to poke fun at? In other words, to whom or to what will the humor be targeted?

Which techniques of an editorial/political cartoon will you be using? Explain specifically how you will use it.

Symbolism? (using a picture to stand for a more abstract concept satire)

Personification? (giving inanimate objects human characteristics caricature)

Analogy? (comparing two things; for instance, directly or indirectly comparing a situation or event with a historical event)

Irony? (Contrasting, often humorously, between appearance or expectation and reality)

Exaggeration/Caricature? (Overstating an aspect of a problem or exaggerating a person's physical features)

Limited word use? (Cartoonists sometimes use titles, captions, name tags, thought or talk bubbles to help the viewer.)

Stereotyping? (Attributing characteristics to a person based on the larger group)

★ On back of this sheet attach a rough sketch of your editorial/political cartoon. Label which techniques you used on your cartoon.

And there is no doubt that a serious political issue, when presented in the form of a telling cartoon, will be borne home to the minds of a far larger circle of average every-day men and women than it could ever be when discussed in the cold black and white of the editorial column.

—Arthur Bartlett Maurice and Frederic Taber Copper

