

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT
"The Horse America Throwing His Master"
From Christine Brooks

Grade –8

Length of class period –50 minutes

Inquiry – How do political cartoons persuade?
How do we recognize the bias of its creator?
How does one evaluate the validity of a political cartoon?

Objectives - Students will use interpretative skills to analyze a political cartoon

Students will make connections to prior knowledge

Students will create their own original political cartoon

Materials - Political Cartoon "The Horse America throwing his Master" Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Reproduction Number LC-US262-1521 (Image attached at end of lesson)

Analysis Worksheet for Cartoon (www.archives.gov/)

Plain white drawing paper, assorted markers, colored pencils, crayons

Rubric for assessment of Political Cartoon (attached)

Activities - In small groups, students will use the analysis worksheet to examine the political cartoon, answering the questions.

The teacher will have students from each group respond to questions, sharing answers and recording them on the board.

Students will brainstorm ideas for political cartoon subject matter, using events from their studies.

Students will then, individually, create their own political cartoon about an event or idea.

Assessment: Informally: Observation of student groups

Formally: Rubric Assessment of original political cartoon

Connecticut Framework Performance Standards

2.2 Interpret information from a variety of primary and secondary sources

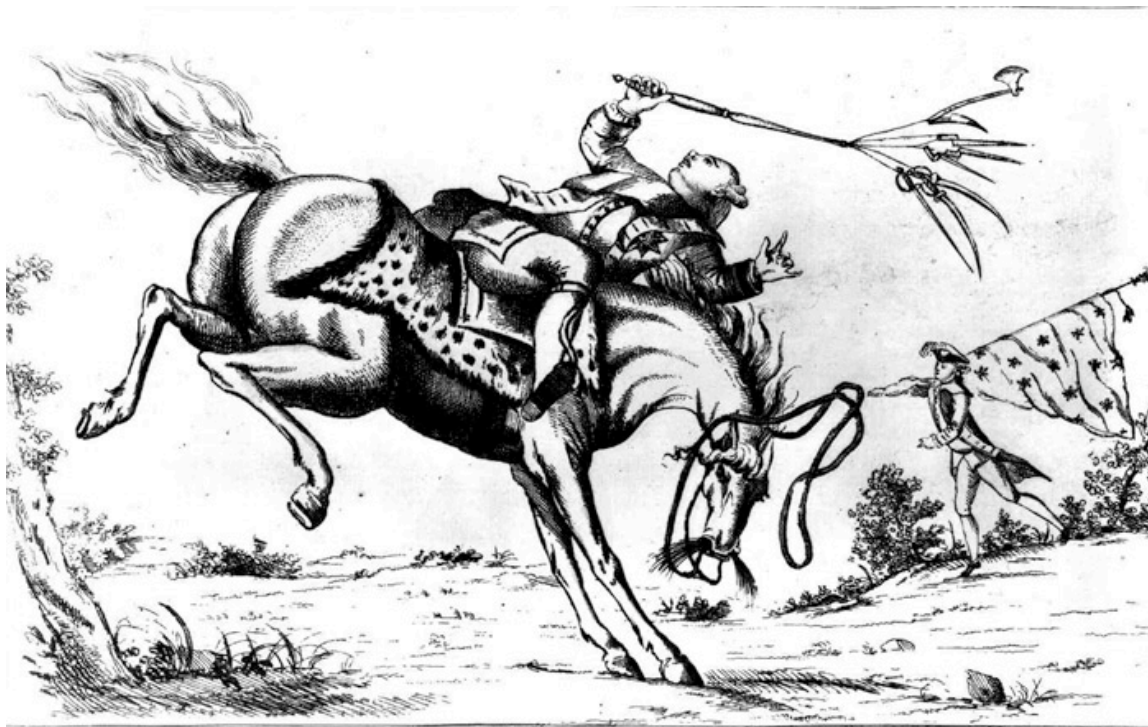
#4 Detect and analyze propaganda, censorship and bias

#5 Evaluate the credibility of a speaker

2.3 Create various forms of written work

#7 Create a written work that expresses a personal opinion on a historical event and support it with relevant evidence

Materials:



THE HORSE AMERICA, throwing his Master.

Pub. in the Advertiser, Jan. 11, 1870, by W. White, Angel Court, Westminster.

http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/cartoon_analysis_worksheet.pdf
(see next page)

Cartoon Analysis Worksheet

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon.	1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title. 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. 3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.
Level 2	
Visuals	Words
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols? 3. What do you think each symbol means?	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? 5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon.
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. C. Explain the message of the cartoon. D. What special interest groups would agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why?	

Designed and developed by the
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NAME: _____

CLASS: _____

	4	3	2	1
Historical Perspective	Shows good understanding of bias	Shows some understanding of bias	Shows limited understanding of bias	Shows no understanding of bias
Historical Interpretation	Accurately interprets historical facts	Mostly accurate facts presented in interpretation	Some accurate facts presented in interpretation	Very few accurate facts presented in interpretation
Neatness	Very neatly presented	Neatly presented	Somewhat neatly presented	Not neatly presented
Creativity	Very creatively done	Creatively done	Somewhat creatively done	Not creatively done