Editorial Cartoon Analysis

Name __________________________

Hour ___     Date _____________

1. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon ______________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

2. Explain the cartoonist’s message in the drawing and caption _______________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

3. Is this cartoon easy to figure out? Why or why not? _____________________________________________________________________________

4. Does this cartoon require you to have a lot of background information on this issue, event or person?
   __yes     __no    Explain _____________________________________________________________________________

5. Who is the cartoonist? ________________________________

6. List any persons portrayed in the drawing:
   ______________________              ____________________              ____________________

7. Did the cartoonist exaggerate any physical features of a person? If yes, describe how it was done.
   _____________________________________________________________________________

8. Were any symbols used? __yes     __no     If yes, what do they represent?
   _____________________________________________________________________________

9. Which person or group(s) may be most likely to agree with its message? _____________________________

10. Which person or group(s) may disagree with the cartoon’s message? _______________________________

Activities:

1. Describe in detail and/or draw another cartoon that would be different from this one but yet would contain the same message.

2. Describe in detail and/or draw a cartoon you could create that would convey an opposite message.

3. Discuss with others your response to the following scenarios:
   - You are the editorial cartoonist for the local newspaper. You plan to draw and publish a cartoon critical of the town mayor’s leadership. You have been asked by the mayor to not publish your work.
   - You believe cigarette smoking is harmful to people’s health and you want to make this point in a cartoon but the local farmers who buy the newspaper and the stores that make money selling cigarettes are pressuring you not to publish the cartoon.

4. General discussion:
   - Should any topic be taboo for an editorial cartoon? Who should determine what is inappropriate or “off limits”? The cartoonist? The magazine or newspaper publisher?

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