

# INTERPRETING POLITICAL CARTOONS – EXTRA CREDIT

🔍 Google “today’s political cartoons” OR check out the political cartoons at:

[www.cagle.com/](http://www.cagle.com/)

[editorialcartoonists.com/#top](http://editorialcartoonists.com/#top)

<http://townhall.com/political-cartoons>

Interpret the political cartoon by addressing the following:

- Event illustrated
- Characters
- Symbols and their meanings
- Satire / Humor
- Cartoonist’s message or opinion

To analyze a political cartoon, consider its:

- ❑ CONTENT. First, basically describe what is drawn in the cartoon (without referring to the labels). What is depicted? What is happening?
- ❑ CONTEXT. Consider the timing. What is happening in national events at the time of the cartoon? Check the date: what occurred in the days and weeks before the cartoon appeared?
- ❑ LABELS. Read each label; look for labels that are not apparent at first, and for other written content in the cartoon.
- ❑ SYMBOLS. Name the symbols in the cartoons. What do they mean? How do they convey the cartoon’s meaning?
- ❑ TITLE. Study the title. Is it a statement, question, exclamation? Does it employ a well-known phrase, slang, song lyric, movie title, radio show, political product slogan? How does it encapsulate and enhance the cartoonist’s point?
- ❑ TONE. Identify the tone of the cartoon. Is it satirical, comic, tragic, ironic, condemning, quizzical, imploring? What adjective describes the feeling of the cartoon? How do the visual elements in the drawing align with its tone?
- ❑ POINT. Put it all together. What is the cartoonist’s point?

Your explanation should be **no less than one paragraph**.

🔍 All cartoons must be cited per the example on the back.

🔍 Each cartoon explanation is worth up to **10 points**.

🔍 You may turn in up to 6...no more than ONE every 2 weeks.

**Cartoons must be current** unless approved otherwise.

**Current means in the last 2 weeks.**

🔍 Explanations **must be TYPED and shared with me on Google docs**. Rule of writing apply.

🔍 **Failure to follow directions will result in no credit.**

🔍 **Last cartoon due date is Friday, May 15, 2020 @ 230p.**



# MODEL STUDENT RESPONSE



Wednesday, February 26, 2020

The event being satirized is the Democrat primary process.

The characters are:

- Bernie Sanders who represents the socialist wing of the democrat party.
- Michael Bloomberg, former NYC mayor, who represents the more moderate wing of the party.

Symbolism includes:

- Bernie's bag which has the Soviet hammer & sickle on it indicating he is a socialist / communist and this is also supported by recent comments by Bernie about Castro and Cuba and historical footage of him in the Soviet Union.
- Bloomberg is standing on a box making fun of his height and playing off of Pres. Trump's nickname for him...Mini Mike.
- The socialism gas can represents Bernie's socialism that is destroying the primary process for the Democrats because he is taking such an extreme position.
- The bag of money represents the money Bloomberg is investing into this campaign and it's suggesting he may as well burn his money because he isn't going to win.
- Dumpster fire represents what's happening to the Democrat party and the primary process especially after last night's debate where moderators lost control and it was a yelling fest between the candidates.

The cartoonist is suggesting that all of Bloomberg's money and Sander's socialist ideas are ineffective and even destroying the party.

Cartoon link: <https://townhall.com/political-cartoons/2020/02/25/171810>

For more on the primary and the most recent debate see...

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/key-takeaways-south-carolina-democratic-debate/story?id=69214270&cid=clicksource> 4380645 2 heads hero live hero hed

STUDENT NAME