



AP U.S. Government and Politics

Analyzing Political Cartoons

Name:

Section:

Directions: As a class we will examine the first political cartoon and then students will be divided between the remaining three cartoons and attempt to analyze and explain the themes from each one. As a class we will then come together to attempt to understand the elements of all three.

Political Cartoon I: What a Man! (Nelson Harding, New York Journal 1933)



1. What type of message is this political cartoon trying to portray and how is it using symbolism to portray the president?

Political Cartoon II: Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick (Washington Post, 1986)



1. Analyze the change in American Presidents depicted in the Political Cartoon above.

2. Make an inference about America during the time of each of the Presidents above based on their pictures and the quotes.
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

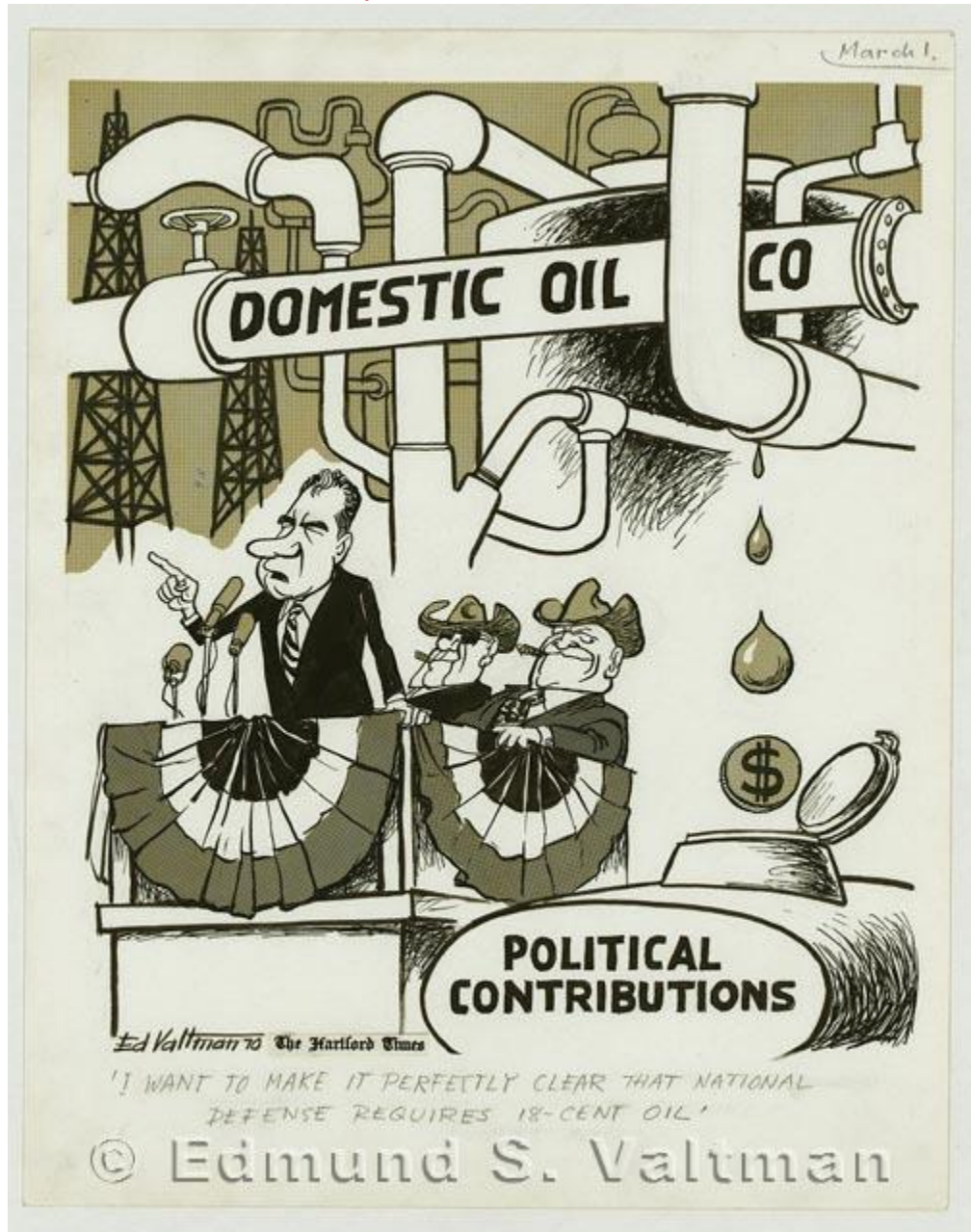
 - d.

Political Cartoon III: King Andrew (Library of Congress, 1832)



1. Analyze the political cartoon above and explain the different elements of Andrew Jackson's depiction.
2. Predict what types of things Andrew Jackson might have done to motivate the artist to draw this depiction?

Political Cartoon IV: I want to make it perfectly clear that national defense requires 18-cent oil
(Edmund Valtman, Hartford Times, 1970)



1. Compare the elements of this political cartoon from this political cartoon to issues in America today.

2. How does this issue relate to the ideas of PACs, SuperPACs and political campaign contributions?