

Name:

Date:

(Anticipated Student Responses) School Isn't Like the Cartoons

DIRECTIONS: For this activity, you will be creating a political cartoon about the educational inequalities within classrooms from the 1950s/60s and comparing them to today's current classrooms. Think, what concerns or issues are currently affecting students? **Carefully read and complete each step below.**

Step 1 - As a class answer the following questions:

1. What is a political cartoon? What is the purpose of a political cartoon?

A political cartoon is an image or drawing that conveys a specific messages. The purpose of a political cartoon is to state or share the messages, beliefs, opinions, or thoughts of the artist. Political cartoons can offer commentary on past or current issues, actions, and/or individuals.

Step 2 - Take a couple of minutes looking at the political cartoon examples, and then answer the following questions:

1. What characteristics of the political cartoons stand out to you? Which characteristics and techniques help share the message of the political cartoon?

The characteristics of the political cartoon examples that stand out to me are the exaggerated features, captions, color choice, symbols, recognizable characters or individuals, the use of irony, and making a comparison . All of these techniques help share the message of the political cartoon. The word choice helps make clear points towards the overall message, and the exaggerated features help me see which parts of the cartoon to focus on.

Step 3 - Roll your chances! See what type of school experience you could have had in the 1950s/60s. Use the warm up sheet, and record your results below:

Type of School:	<i>Segregated</i>
How many students:	<i>Full class</i>
Types of resources:	<i>New, updated, have more than enough</i>
Teacher Training:	<i>Teachers were not qualified</i>
Likelihood of going to college:	<i>25%</i>

Step 4 - Make two lists about the issues affecting students and the classroom. One list will include issues during the 1950s/60s, and the other list will be about current issues.

Educational Inequalities of the 1950s/60s	Educational Inequalities of today/current society
<i>1. Lack of resources</i>	<i>1. Safety</i>
<i>2. Segregated</i>	<i>2. Lack of resources</i>
<i>3. Teachers were not qualified</i>	<i>3. High teacher turnover rate</i>

Step 4 - Create your own cartoon! Draw, outline, and color a political cartoon of your own design to create a comparison between the issues within education inequalities of the 1950s/60s and current society. You will be graded on the accuracy of your representation of school issues from the 1950s/60s and current society, the comparison made between the two time periods, and your use of at least three of the following design elements: captions, phrases, past or current leaders, irony, exaggeration, and/or symbols relevant to educational inequalities.



Step 5 - Write a paragraph response explicitly sharing the message your political cartoon works to convey.

In the cartoon there are two major drawings, one in which teachers and students are protesting being in segregated classrooms, and the other in which teachers and students are protesting a lack of school supplies. The messages of the signs are the same, such as, "What about the kids?", since with both issues the protesters are concerned about the negative effects these issues are having on the students. This shows that over the last 60 years, there are still major issues affecting the classroom, students, and teachers. This also shows that although we desegregated the classroom, there are still inequalities in regards to how many supplies and resources students across the country have access to. Some classrooms have more than enough supplies, and some classrooms have outdated, broken, and less than enough supplies, which is not fair to the students.