Examining Political Cartoons – Decoding a Message

- 1. What is your emotional reaction to this cartoon? Does it make you laugh, or feel angry, sad or concerned? Do you feel only one emotion or several at the same time?
- 2. What is the message of the political cartoon?
- 3. Scrutinize the characters. Can you name them by drawing on your knowledge of local and world events?

Examine characters attire and other visual clues. For example:

- Facial expressions does the character's face convey anger, fear, intrigue?
- Complexion describe the character's facial appearance (clean-cut and shaven, scruffy, etc.)
- Body expression and appearance describe the character's physical appearance (slouched, arms waving frantically, small stature, broad and bold body, etc.)
- Attire what is the character wearing? (suit and tie, underwear, has, etc.)
- Exaggeration of facial or physical characteristics compared to a photograph (e.g., chins, mouths, bulging eyes, long noses, etc.)
- 4. Identify objects you see in the cartoon (buildings, fences, something the character is holding). Notice words on the objects and background features (sky, walls, water).



<u>Examining Memes – Understanding Subtleties</u>

Why do we use them?

Simply put, they are the internet's inside jokes.

They convey a feeling of familiarity and relevance, being a part of something bigger.

The cultural knowledge you gained from years of watching television and browsing social media channels has now made it possible for you to understand and enjoy this joke.

That's the secret ingredient that turns memes from regular jokes to viral material. There are few more reasons why memes are one of the go-to moves of the average social media user:

- They are eye-catching.
- They enable you to express complex ideas through a simple concept by relying on the meme context, origin and common use.
- They have a viral potential.

They push you to paint your creative thoughts in more humorous colors.

First World Problems



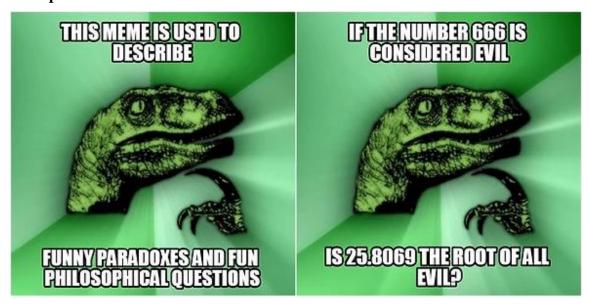
Captain Picard Face Palm



One Does Not Simply



Philosoraptor



What if I Told You...



Success Kid



Conspiracy Keanu

