



POLITICAL CARTOONS

Child-led learning resource

ABOUT

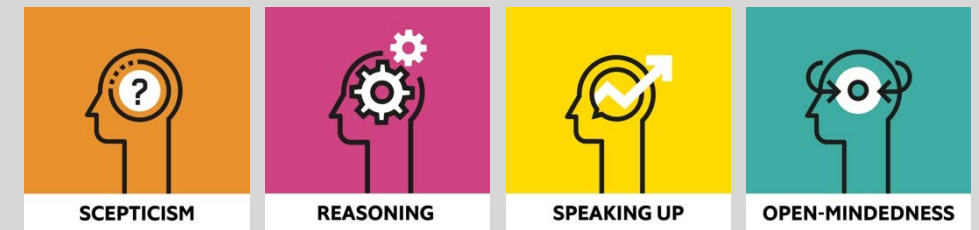
This activity helps you to understand political cartoons and lets you explore really interesting questions like:

- Are cartoons only for kids?
- How are political cartoons made?
- What do political cartoons try to do?

Plus, you'll draw your own cartoon!

You can give this a go on your own, but if there's someone at home who can join you, why not work together? You could also connect with someone by telephone or video.

We'll practise some critical-thinking skills which are important for understanding and discussing the news.



With thanks to Kal
Kevin Kallaugh

www.kaltoons.com







Twitter: [@kaltoons](https://twitter.com/kaltoons)

Ready? Let's go!



WARM-UP!

Think about, or discuss, these questions:

- What's your favourite cartoon?
- What do you like about it?
- Can you name a cartoon that is
 -  Funny
 -  Boring
 -  Serious
 -  Scary
 -  Silly
 -  Educational
- Are cartoons only for kids?
- What things do all cartoons have in common? For example: characters

MEET KAL

Kevin “Kal” Kallaughner is
The Economist’s cartoonist.

This video, from 2019, tells you how Kal creates his cartoons. Before you watch it, read the questions below and keep them in your mind.



Watch the video here
bit.ly/KalCartoon

Afterwards, think about or discuss the answers:

- Why are political cartoons different from other cartoons?
- What are the four different ‘hats’ Kal wears to create a political cartoon?
- What is Kal really trying to do with his cartoons?



MEET KAL

Let's look at one cartoon in-depth.

Find a cartoon in the video (pause the video at 00:22, 02:56 or 03:00), flick through a newspaper, or find your own political cartoon online.

Look at the cartoon and answer the following questions:



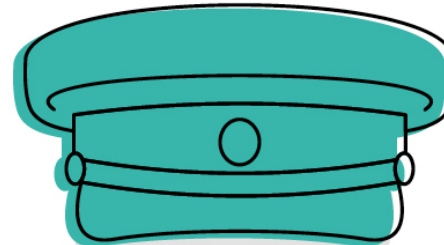
JOURNALIST HAT

What news issue is the cartoon about?



SATIRIST HAT

How has the cartoonist used humour to explain their point of view?



COMMENTATOR HAT

What is the cartoonist's point of view? What is their important message?



ARTIST HAT

What do you like about the drawing? Is there anything you would add or change?



CREATE YOUR OWN CARTOON

Use the following page to help you plan and draw your own political cartoon.

Start with HAT ONE and work through them in order. When you have planned in full, then start drawing.



Take a photo of your cartoon and ask a parent to share it with us on Twitter via [@Econ Foundation](https://twitter.com/EconFoundation)



HAT ONE JOURNALIST

Spend five minutes researching and discussing current news stories around the world. Find three stories that are interesting to you. A good cartoon will express an opinion, so choose stories that you feel strongly about. For your cartoon, it might be easier to choose stories that are unusual.

Story one

Story two

Story three

Choose a story to make a cartoon about.

Which story did you choose?

Why?

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HAT TWO COMMENTATOR

Who are the key people or groups involved in this story?

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How does it make you feel?

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Does it remind you of anything?

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What do you want to say about this?

What's your opinion?

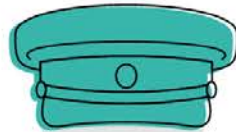
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YOUR POLITICAL CARTOON



HAT THREE SATIRIST

How could you make your message funny?

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Could you present any character in a funny way to show what you mean?

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How will you make your audience laugh?

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HAT FOUR ARTIST

How can you make the story come to life through art?

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SUPER-REFLECTION

- What makes political cartoons so popular?
- Do political cartoons count as a type of news?
- Can a cartoon ever go too far?

NOW...



Do some research

Find your favourite cartoon!

Check out <http://www.kaltoons.com/>



Have a discussion

Explain your cartoon to someone else or swap ideas for a cartoon about a current news story



Become the teacher!

See if you can go through these activities again, as the teacher, with somebody else in your household