

# MR. V'S POLITICAL CARTOON PROJECT

## INSTRUCTIONS & RUBRIC

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. One 8½ X 11 White non-lined sheet of paper (you must use the full sheet)
2. Hand drawn (Photoshopped pictures are not acceptable)
3. Colored (please make sure it's colored in some way to make it "pop")
4. The **BACK** of the cartoon should have:
  - a. Title of Cartoon
  - b. Name
  - c. Date
  - d. Class period
5. It does not have to be one "big" drawing. It can be a comic strip format with multiple panels if you would like

### HOW DO I BEGIN TO CREATE A POLITICAL CARTOON?

First you must ask yourself, "What is the issue I want to write about?" There are so many choices, I'm going to try and help you narrow these down. Here is a brief list to help you think about what topic might be interesting to you, as well as some things to think about as you begin.

#### **Topic Ideas:**

Health Care (Affordable Care Act, Ebola, Obesity, etc.)

Military/War (Conflict in the Middle East, ISIS, etc.)

Immigration (Immigration policy, Treatment of Immigrants, etc.)

Education (Education Policy, Importance of Education, etc.)

Current Event Topics (Mid Term Elections, Halloween, Thanksgiving, etc.)

**"What do you want to say?"** Choose a topic and find your voice. What is it you want to say about the topic? Once you select your topic, come up with a summary of what you are trying to get across to your audience.

**"Can you think of another example of something that symbolizes your summary?"**

Once you have your summary, think of things/images that can symbolize your summary. For example – If your cartoon was about how a person or country is being sneaky, you might use a picture of a Trojan horse with that person's name or country's name on it. The Trojan Horse would be symbolism and be one part of your cartoon.

### QUESTION(S) TO ANSWER:

What is your specific opinion?

- Why should we care?
- What should we do about it?
- Why is this important?
- What does this say about what you believe?

Here are some links for political cartoon examples:

<http://www.politicalcartoons.com/>

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/cartoon/display.cfm/29834/>

<http://www.cartoonistgroup.com/search/results.php>

**PLEASE NOTE:**

It is very tempting to copy cartoons that have already been done. Some students believe that they can take an idea from an artist, change a thing or two, and then claim it is their own. This is plagiarism and will result in a “0” on your assignment. You must come up with an original idea.

**DUE DATE:**

October 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> (depending on your block).

# POLITICAL CARTOON RUBRIC

	6	5-4	3-2	1-0
Meets Basic Requirements	Student's project follows all five instruction points.	Student's project is missing a minor point from instructions (for example: date or title)	Student's project is missing a major point (for example: paper is not 8.5X11) but is still completed	Student's project does not conform to more than one major point.
Organization & Preparation	The political cartoon is of excellent quality and it is apparent that the student spent time in preparing it.	The political cartoon is of good quality and it is apparent that the student spent some time.	The political cartoon is of fair quality and seems rushed.	The political cartoon appears to have been hastily created and appears messy or disorganized.
Knowledge & Concept of the Topic	The political cartoon demonstrates higher level understanding of an issue.	The political cartoon demonstrates an understanding of an issue.	The political cartoon demonstrates recognition of an issue but not a clear understanding.	The political cartoon demonstrates that the student is still struggling to understand the issue.
Creativity of the Product	The political cartoon's style, color, and impact align perfectly with the students ideas.	The political cartoon's style, color, and impact align well with the students ideas.	The political cartoon's style, color, and impact do not align well with the students ideas.	The political cartoon's style, color, and impact seem disjointed and rushed.
Visual Expression of Ideas	The political cartoon is rich with symbolism. The message goes beyond a statement and reflects an in-depth opinion answering more than one of the "questions to answer."	The political cartoon is rich with symbolism. The message goes beyond a statement and reflects an in-depth opinion answering one of the "questions to answer."	The political cartoon demonstrates little symbolism. The message does not really go beyond a statement (for example "people in Africa are starving") and does not reflect an in-depth opinion answering more than one of the "questions to answer."	The political cartoon demonstrates little to no symbolism. The message does not really go beyond a statement (for example "people in Africa are starving") and does not reflect an in-depth opinion.