Analyzing Political Cartoons (Primary Source)

Study the political cartoon techniques listed below, and then fill in the chart about your cartoon and answer the questions. Note that not all the elements will be relevant for all cartoons: not every cartoon has every element. You may lack a caption, or spoken words, or objects.

Political Cartoons generally use one or more of the following techniques:

- Caricature *Exaggerating or distorting a *character's features*
- Exaggeration/Distortion *Distorting a *object* in shape or appearance
- Humor *Using irony, sarcasm, or exaggeration
- Stereotyping *Generalizing about an entire group by a single characteristic; may be insulting.

Level 1/On the Surface

Elements of Cartoons

WORDS	IMAGES
Captions:	**Objects:**
Titles:	**People:**
Spoken Words:	**Actions:**
Labels:	

Level 2/Under the surface:

1. What **symbols** are used, and what do they represent?

2. What is the cartoonist's **message**?