

Issues to Consider when looking at the value of cartoons as source material:

- Cartoons show a point of view about an event or person.
- A cartoonist usually draws a point of view that other people will understand and appreciate and so this makes it useful for showing one current view or perception of what is happening.
- In order to help work out how representative the cartoonist's view is, you can at the publication in which it is published. If it is published in a newspaper or magazine with a large and or/wide readership, this will make it more useful in showing contemporary perceptions.
- A Soviet cartoon, for example, will be useful for showing the nature of Soviet propaganda.

Issues to Consider when looking at the limitations of cartoons as source material:

- A cartoon is only one point of view (of either a section of society or a particular country) and might not be the view of the majority of people.
- The situation in the cartoon can be exaggerated in order to make a point.
- You need to consider how much knowledge the cartoonist would have about an event or issue.
- A Soviet cartoon, for example, will represent the views of the Soviet leadership only and will be making a propaganda point.

Don't forget to refer directly to the details of the specific cartoon and the cartoonist you are analyzing when answering a question on its value and limitations.