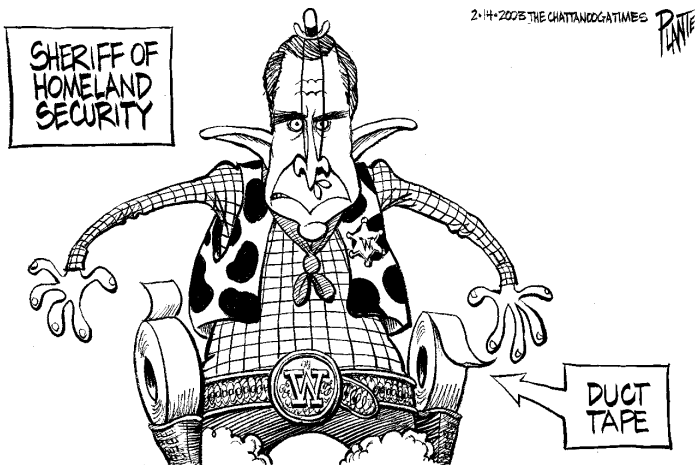


Cartoons for the Classroom



Presented in cooperation with the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



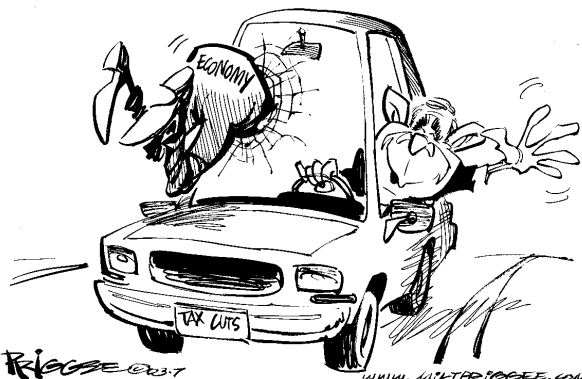
Courtesy Bruce Plante/Chattanooga Times Free Press

Talking points:

Write a short definition for each of the following.

- Satire _____
- _____
- Caricature _____
- _____
- Tenet _____
- _____

Examine these three toons dealing with President Bush. List the symbols used in each cartoon. Three different issues are being explored. What are the issues? Where does the artist stand on the issues?



Additional resources

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)
<http://pc99.detnews.com/aaec/>
The Freedom Forum (for First Amendment info)
<http://www.freedomforum.org/>

Bushwhacked!

Caricatures ambush even presidents

What power the artists wield. They turn our political leaders into cartoon characters and we get to laugh at the most powerful people affecting our lives. But what allows cartoonists to poke fun at politicians and our government without fear? What if the president gets upset about an artist's opinion? The answer lies in the First Amendment to the Constitution -- only 45 words -- which established five basic liberties more than 200 years ago. One of those tenets says that people have the right to criticize the government and to share their opinions with others. Without that right -- the Freedom of Speech -- people in some other countries can't share ideas that question their leaders or their actions. And that just isn't funny.



Courtesy Gary Varvel /The Indianapolis Star

Get out your newspaper

Gather a week's worth of political cartoons from your newspaper. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and identify the symbols used and the issues.