

Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



CartoonArts International: www.nytsyn.com/cartoons

Kevin "Kal" Kallaugher / Courtesy CartoonArts International

Between the lines

Studying political cartoons helps provide context to some basic literary concepts:

Satire: A literary work in which human vice or folly is attacked through irony, derision, or wit.

Irony: Something humorous based on contradiction: Words or situations suggesting the opposite of their literal meaning.

Sarcasm: Remarks that mean the opposite of what they seem to say and are intended to mock or deride

Additional resources

More by Kal
<http://cartoons.nytimes.com/>

Kal's website
<http://www.kaltoons.com/>

Association of American Editorial Cartoonists
<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>

Sarcasm, irony, satire

Talking points

1. Kal's predictions provide a different perspective on current events. Using the definitions under *Between the Lines*, at left, assign each panel a category: Sarcasm, irony or satire.
2. The nuclear powered Trojan Dove Kal has the Iranians build is a literary reference to the Trojan horse mentioned in Homer's *Odyssey* and detailed in Virgil's Latin epic poem *The Aeneid*. Can you explain the metaphor and how it applies here?
3. The awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to President Obama drew lots of criticism. Explain the serpents attacking Obama and how that image explains his offer to Sarah Palin.