

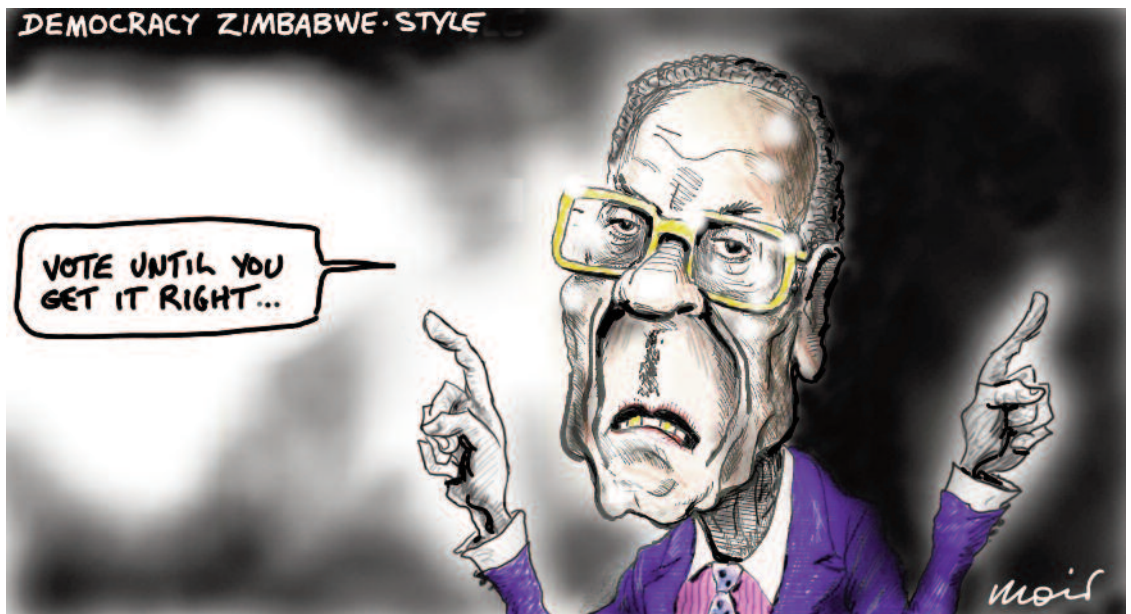
Cartoons for the Classroom



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

Between the lines

Results of the March 29, 2008 elections in Zimbabwe were delayed for weeks by President Robert Mugabe's government. The results ultimately showed that the main opposition party had won the election, but not by the necessary margin of more than 50 percent. A runoff election will determine whether Mugabe will remain in power.



Both cartoons courtesy Alan Moir / Sydney Morning Herald, Australia

Comparing democracies



Talking points

1. Robert Mugabe has dominated Zimbabwe's politics since the country's independence in 1980 and has long been accused of resorting to violence and intimidation to remain in power as president. With that information as background and Mugabe's defeat in March 2008, explain the point of Alan Moir's cartoon statement: "Vote until you get it right."
2. In the cartoon at right, Mugabe ignores the election results. What would happen in the U.S. if the President ignored the results of a presidential election? Why is it different in Zimbabwe? Can it happen here?
3. Do some research and discuss what life is like for the people of Zimbabwe.

Get out your newspaper

Gather a collection of political cartoons from your newspaper. Using the Cartoon Evaluation Worksheet (available online at the NIE Website) analyze each cartoon and explain the issues addressed. Gather news stories about the issues and evaluate the opinions presented in the cartoons.

Additional resources

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

More cartoons by Alan Moir: <http://www.smh.com.au/cartoons/>