

SKILLS - EXERCISE 1

MAP OF CANADA

1. Label each of the following on the map of Canada on the next page. Check each item when complete.

- ☐ 10 provinces with their capital cities
- ☐ 3 territories with their capital cities
- ☐ The federal capital
- ☐ 3 oceans (Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic)

The following bodies of water:

- ☐ Hudson Bay
- ☐ 5 Great Lakes

2. Draw the following 9 rivers:

- ☐ Yukon River
- ☐ Mackenzie River
- ☐ Peace River
- ☐ Athabasca River
- ☐ Saskatchewan River
- ☐ Fraser River
- ☐ St. Lawrence River
- ☐ Saguenay River
- ☐ Ottawa River

3. Shade the following:

- ☐ Each province and territory in a different colour (except blue)
- ☐ All water bodies in blue

4. Also include on your map:

- ☐ A legend
- ☐ A direction arrow (compass)

5. Ask a fellow student to review your map to make sure it includes every required item, labelled and spelled correctly.

Name _____ Block _____ Date _____

SKILLS - EXERCISE 1
MAP OF CANADA



SKILLS - EXERCISE 7

ANALYZING A POLITICAL CARTOON

Political cartoons have been regular features in newspapers since the late nineteenth century. Much like written editorials, political cartoons convey a point of view about a contemporary issue, person, or event. Political cartoons often poke fun at politics and politicians, which is a form of satire. In order to understand how political cartoons work, it is first important to understand the concept of satire.

Satire:

- Satire is a form of humour, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule that is intended to criticize individuals, institutions, politics, or human behaviour in general.
- Satire points out the vices or weaknesses of a person or group of people (often people in power), for the purpose of change or reform.
- Satire points out the flaws or problems with a law, a belief, or a societal norm.
- It is often humorous with a goal to entertain. Many satirists are comedians.
- It is sometimes very biting or cruel, with a goal to aggressively advocate change.

A Few Devices used to Highlight Satire in Political Cartoons:

Caricature

Caricature is a visual form of satire, which is an exaggerated representation of a person. In caricatures, the physical features of important political figures are often exaggerated or distorted. The purpose of this exaggeration is to make the figure easily recognizable or, more importantly, to reveal a certain aspect about the individual.

Analogy

An analogy is a comparison that shows similarities between two characters, objects, or ideas. In political cartoons, analogies are used to reveal the viewpoint of a cartoonist. For example, if a political leader is shown as the captain of a sinking ship, the cartoonist is alluding to the fact that the leader is losing the support of the people.

Steps to Analyzing a Political Cartoon:

1. Does the cartoon have a title? If so, what does it mean?
2. Who is the figure in the cartoon? (name, position)
3. What is the figure doing or saying?
4. What is the setting?
5. Where and when does the action in the cartoon take place?
6. Are there any symbols in the cartoon? If so, what do they mean?
7. Are any comparisons being made? If so, what are they?

Name_____Block_____Date_____

SKILLS - EXERCISE 7

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8. Who or what is the cartoonist “satirizing” (poking fun at)?
9. What is the overall message of the cartoon?
10. Is the cartoon effective? Why/why not?
11. If possible, research the cartoonist (country of origin, political views, economic background) in order to identify his/her bias.

Assignment:

1. Look up this web site:
http://theweek.com/cartoons?sort=publish_date&page=8
2. Choose a cartoon that interests you and proceed through the steps to analyzing a political cartoon. (You may also search the internet for a different political cartoon.)
3. Write a detailed description of your chosen political cartoon and comment on its use of satire. Your description should attempt to answer most of the questions above.

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