

Analyzing Political Cartoons

View these primary source cartoons from the Library of Congress ("Columbia Teaching John Bull his New Lesson" and "A Boxing Match, or Another Bloody Nose for John Bull") with students. What is the purpose behind a political cartoon? What is the purpose of these particular cartoons during the War of 1812? Are there any political cartoons that are published today? Look for modern-day examples of something similar, and learn about current events through the vehicle of political cartoons.



Columbia teaching John Bull his lesson, Samuel Kennedy, 1813. Property of the Library of Congress.



A boxing match, or another bloody nose for John Bull, William Charles, 1813. Property of the Library of Congress.