

Name: _____

Political Cartoons

Introduction: The announcement about the nuclear deal with Iran has created a great deal of controversy in the United States and around the world. The public has reacted with varying degrees of support, criticism, and concern. Some believe that the deal is a bad one and that it will result in the Iran getting nuclear weapons. Others support it because it allows for careful international monitoring of Iranian nuclear facilities. Others still think that it is overly optimistic about Iran complying with its terms. The U.S. Congress is set to debate the issue in the coming days.

The strong feelings raised by this issue inspire political cartoonists in the United States and around the world. The cartoons not only reflect the events of the times, but also offer interpretations and express strong opinions about these events.

Cartoonists use a variety of methods to convey their ideas. The techniques they use include:

Labels: Cartoonists often identify or name certain things in their cartoons so that it is apparent what they represent.

Symbolism: Cartoonists may use simple objects to represent larger ideas or concepts.

Analogy: Cartoonists may compare a simple image or concept to a more complex situation in order to help the viewer understand the situation in a different way.

Irony: A cartoonist may express an opinion on a topic by highlighting the difference between the way things are and the way things should, or are expected, to be.

Instructions: Work with your group to analyze the two cartoons your teacher has assigned to you. You will be asked to identify the techniques each cartoonist used. The following questions will help guide your thinking.

- If the cartoonist used **labels**, what things in the cartoon are labeled? Why do you think the cartoonist chose to label those things?
- If the cartoonist used **symbolism**, what things in the cartoon are symbols? What do they stand for?
- If the cartoonist used an **analogy**, what two ideas or situations are compared? How does this comparison help the viewer see the complex situation in a different way?
- If the cartoonist used **irony**, what does the cartoonist show about the way things are? How does the cartoonist think things should be?

Name: _____



1. Observation

Describe the objects or people in the cartoon.

Describe the action taking place in the cartoon.

2. Identify at least two techniques that the cartoonist used and explain what ideas are conveyed through each technique.

a.

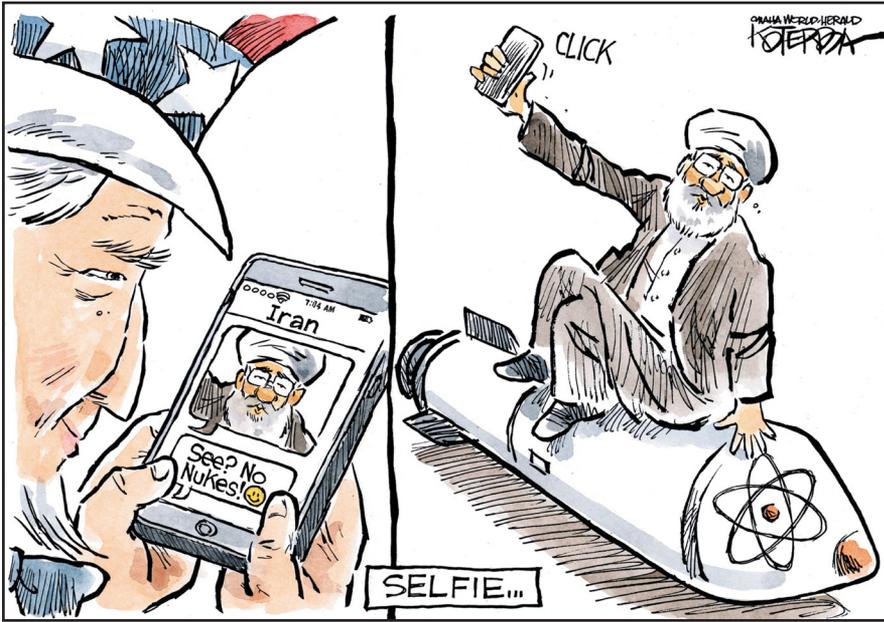
b.

c.

3. What is the message of the cartoon?

Name: _____

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 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

3. What is the message of the cartoon?

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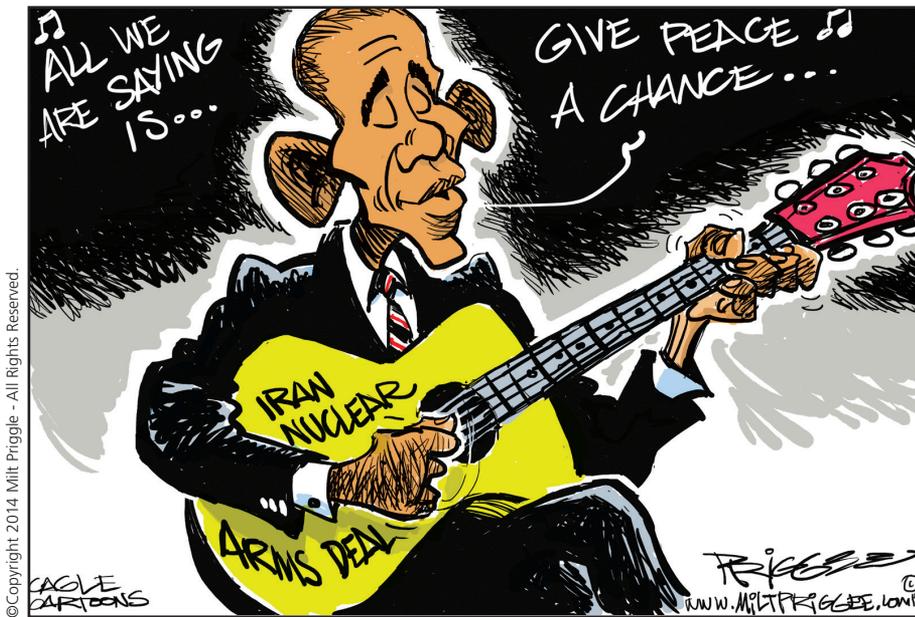
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b.

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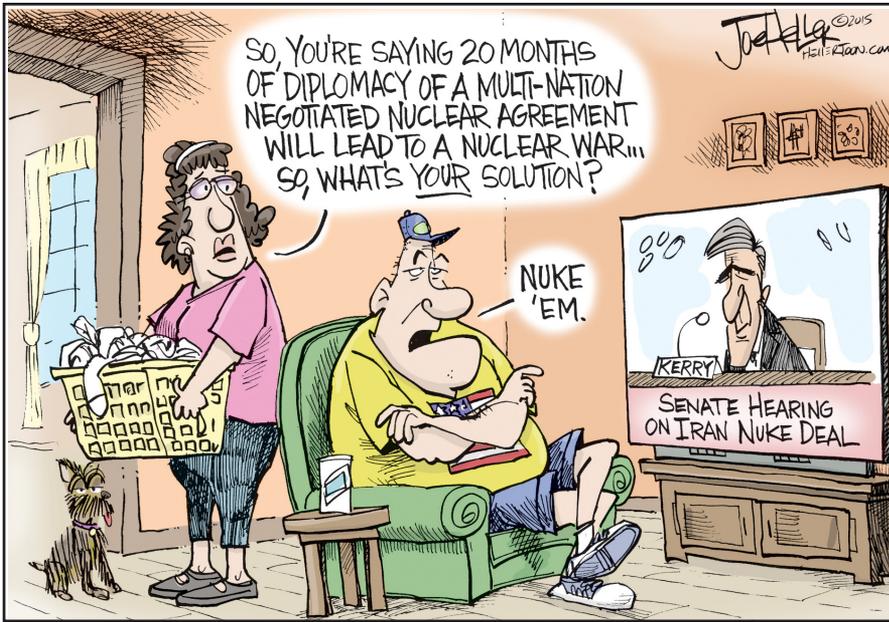
b.

c.

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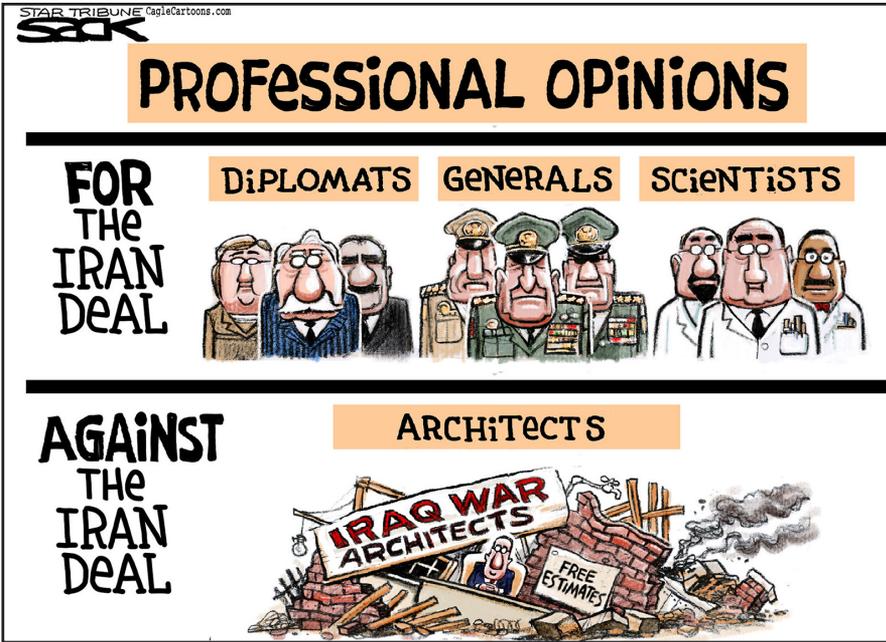
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