Cartoons for the Classroom



Cartoon Courtesy David Parkins / The Guardian, London

Between the lines

"The golden age of piracy has returned. Just as Henry Every and William Kidd once made their fortunes in the Red Sea. a new generation has emerged, armed with grenade launchers and assault rifles, to threaten trade and distract the world's navies. With the recent capture of the Saudi supertanker Sirius Star, a crime that once seemed remote and archaic has again claimed center stage."

-- DOUGLAS R. BURGESS Jr. New York Times Published: December 5, 2008

Geographic inspiration

Talking points

1. British cartoonist David Parkins uses the shape of the Arabian Peninsula and the Horn of Africa as the basis for his illustration commenting on the explosion of piracy that's occurring in the region. The label is one clue that the drawing might be a geographic shape. Any others? What about the colors used?

2. List the symbols Parkins uses to get the point across.

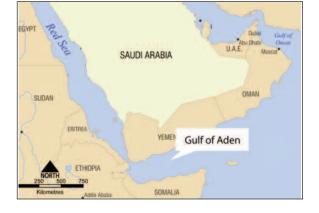
3. Aden is one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. Study the map and indicate on the illustration the bodies of water and countries included. Pirates operate from which country?

Additional resources

More cartoons by David Parkins http://www.davidparkins.com/political_cartoons.htm

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

Association of Canadian Editorial Cartoonists http://www.canadiancartoonists.com//



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.

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