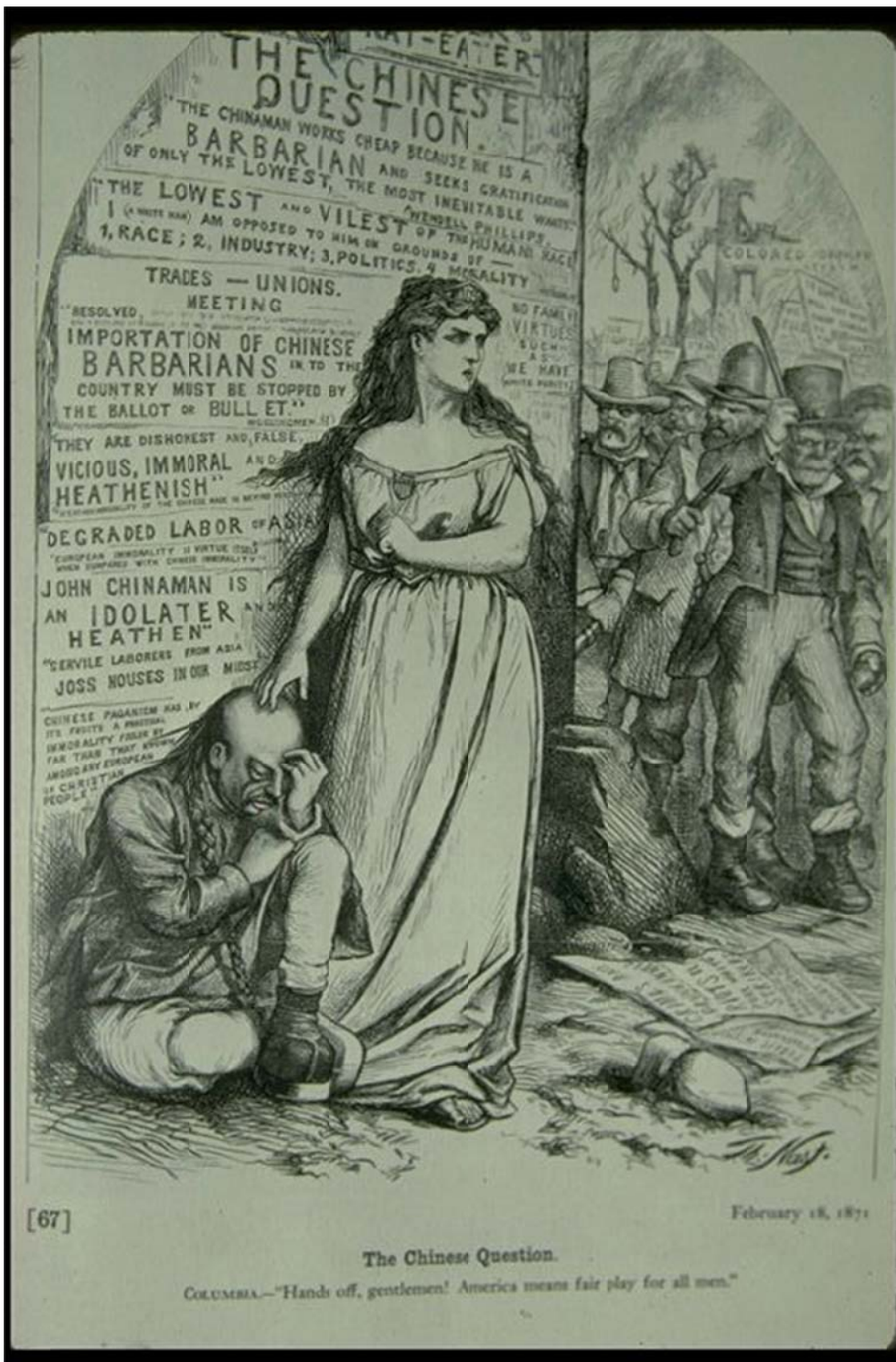




"The Chinese Question." (February 18, 1871). Thomas Nast.

Original Caption: Columbia—"Hands off, gentlemen! America means fair play for all men."



Harper's Weekly, May 20, 1882, page 317.

Original Caption: “(Dis)-honors are easy.” Now both parties have something to hang on.

Cartoon Analysis Worksheet

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon.	1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title. 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. 3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.
Level 2	
Visuals	Words
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols? 3. What do you think each symbol means?	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? 5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon.
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. C. Explain the message of the cartoon. D. Would you agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why?	

Cartoon Analysis Worksheet: *Cartoon One Answer Key*

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon. <i>Farmer, locust cloud, capitol building, Chinese locusts, field of wheat</i>	1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title. <i>"The Chinese Plague. Farmer Knickenbocker: "What shall I do with this darn'd locust horde? They'll eat up all my labor crop!"</i> 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. <i>shoemakers, cigar makers, common laborers, factory hands, housemaids</i> 3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.
Level 2	
Visuals	Words
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols? <i>Shafts of wheat Cloud of locust Capitol building Chinese fairies in the wheat field</i> 3. What do you think each symbol means? <i>The cloud of locusts is shaped like the United States and means that the Chinese locusts are going to destroy the United States labor. The cloud shows that the threat is not just in California, but it is a national threat. The individual shafts of wheat represent all of the kinds of jobs that will be taken away by Chinese workers. The capitol building shows that legislation might solve the problem. The individual locusts show that the threat is already a problem.</i>	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? <i>Answer may vary. One possible answer: They'll eat up all my labor crop. The author believes that the Chinese will threaten the jobs of American workers. This is the reason given in support of restrictions on Chinese immigration.</i> 5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon. <i>threatening, imminent, destructive, menacing, large</i>
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. <i>As the farmer walks along, a huge cloud of Chinese locusts is approaching and threatening to destroy his crop of labor. Two Chinese locusts have already landed and they are ready to destroy the jobs listed on the wheat stalks.</i> B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. <i>The words in the caption tell us that the cloud is the Chinese immigrants. The words on the stalk tell us exactly what jobs are threatened by the Chinese immigrants.</i> C. Explain the message of the cartoon. <i>Legislation must be passed to prevent the Chinese immigrants from taking the jobs of American workers.</i> D. Would you agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why? <i>Chinese immigrant—No, we do not want to destroy the US labor market. We simply want the chance to live in the US like immigrants from all across the world. We are no different from other immigrants. California labor member—Yes, I am worried about the number of Chinese immigrants, and I am worried that they will take my job. I want legislation to protect me. East Coast labor member—Maybe a little, I haven't seen any Chinese workers in my state, so I am not too worried. I want immigration to be open because I have family back in Europe, and I want them to be able to immigrate to the US. I do not want anyone to work for less money than I do because then they would take my job. I just don't see that the Chinese are a real threat to me. Politician—Personally no, but perhaps I can use this issue. If I support restrictions on Chinese workers, perhaps that will win me support from labor members.</i>	

Cartoon Analysis Worksheet: *Cartoon Two Answer Key*

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon. <i>Mob, Chinese immigrant, Columbia, destroyed building, posters, noose from a lynching, newspapers</i>	1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title. <i>"Hands off, gentlemen! America means fair play for all men."</i> 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. <i>Various answers: degraded labor, John Chinaman, Colored, barbarian, vicious, heathenish, Chinese</i> <i>Question</i> 3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon. <i>1871</i>
Level 2	
Visuals	Words
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols? <i>Columbia</i> <i>noose and mob</i> <i>Chinese immigrant</i> 3. What do you think each symbol means? <i>Columbia represents the freedom and equality that the United States is supposed to provide for immigrants. The racist mob represents the members of society that want to deny these rights to certain groups and the threat that these members pose to immigrants. The destruction in the background reminds viewers that racism lead to the Civil War and destruction in the South The immigrant represents all Chinese immigrants.</i>	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? <i>Various answers</i> <i>One possible answer: "America means fair play for all men". The words of Thomas Nast remind Americans that a war was just (at least substantially) fought over slavery and racism against African-Americans. The cartoon was penned during the Reconstruction Era when many Americans had more idealist views toward equality, and the words are intended to remind viewers of this idealism.</i> 5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon. <i>threatening, consoling, protective, angry, scared, despondent, bullied</i>
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. <i>An angry, racist mob, which has already wreaked destruction against African-Americans, is now threatening a Chinese immigrant. Columbia is protecting the immigrant. She reminds the mob that America is supposed to provided freedom and equality to all.</i> B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. <i>The words in the posters tell what kinds of propaganda was levied against the Chinese. The caption tells us that the US is supposed to be free of this type of propaganda.</i> C. Explain the message of the cartoon. <i>Racism against the Chinese must be stopped or it will lead to the same kind of destruction that the South suffered because of racism against Africans.</i> D. Would you agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why? <i>Chinese immigrant—Yes, we deserve freedom and equality just like all Americans. We came here for a better life, and we are being treated unfairly.</i> <i>California labor member—No, this is different than the South. We are not treating the Chinese like Southerners treated slaves. If anything, other people are making the Chinese "Coolie" slaves and bringing them here to take our jobs.</i> <i>East Coast labor member—Yes, the Civil War destroyed the South. The war took away more jobs than Chinese immigrants have. I don't want to see more fighting and destruction.</i> <i>Politician—Personally maybe, but perhaps I can use this issue. If I support restrictions on Chinese workers, perhaps that will win me support from labor members. I don't think enough people will agree with this cartoon strongly enough for me to lose votes if I support restrictions on Chinese immigration.</i>	

Cartoon Analysis Worksheet: *Cartoon Three Answer Key*

Level 1	
Visuals	Words (not all cartoons include words)
1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon. <i>Tree, Chinese immigrant, tiger, elephant, cliffs, ocean</i>	1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title. <i>"(Dis)-honors are easy." Now both parties have something to hang on."</i> 2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon. <i>Liberty, Freedom for All, Democrats, The Chinese must go for 10 years, Republicans, 20 years</i> 3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.
Level 2	
Visuals	Words
2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols? <i>all</i> 3. What do you think each symbol means? <i>The tree represents the Tree of Liberty, or the idea that the United States provides freedom to its citizens and residents. The Chinese immigrant represents all Chinese immigrants. The tiger represents the Democratic Party, and the elephant represents the Republican Party. The cliffs and oceans represent the destruction that parties are willing to cause in order to win votes by using the Chinese issue.</i>	4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so? <i>Various answers</i> <i>One possible answer: "(Dis)-honors are easy." This shows that both political parties are acting dishonorably and just using the Chinese issue to win votes.</i> 5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon. <i>destructive, abusive, damaging, manipulative</i>
Level 3	
A. Describe the action taking place in the cartoon. <i>In order to avoid falling off the cliff into the ocean, the elephant is holding on to the tiger who is grabbing hold of the Chinese immigrant by his queue. The Chinese immigrant is holding onto the Tree of Liberty, but the force has uprooted the tree. All, including the tree, will plunge into the ocean.</i> B. Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols. <i>The words tell us that this cartoon is about the political platforms of the two parties.</i> C. Explain the message of the cartoon. <i>Both the Republicans and the Democrats competed to support greater restrictions against the Chinese; however, by attacking the freedoms of one group, they have attacked liberty for all Americans. This also will lead to destruction for both parties, the Chinese immigrants. The Chinese immigrants are powerless to fight back.</i> D. Would you agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why? <i>Chinese immigrant—Yes, we are just being used by politicians to win votes. Our liberty is being attacked for no good reason, and we are powerless to fight back.</i> <i>California labor member—No, the Chinese are taking our jobs. We support both of the political parties for being brave enough to include restrictions on Chinese immigration in their platforms.</i> <i>East Coast labor member—Yes, we don't think the issue of Chinese immigration is that bad. We really want progressive legislation like limits on hours; instead, both parties make Chinese immigration a big issue. We don't care that much about Chinese immigration.</i> <i>Politician—Personally maybe. I am a little worried about what will happen if we do legislate immigration restrictions on the Chinese. The problem is that if I oppose restrictions, my opponent will win. I need to politically support restrictions so that I can get elected.</i>	

Jigsaw Group: Political Cartoon Analysis

1. Each member of your group will take one of the following roles:
 - Chinese immigrant to the US,
 - Californian labor union member,
 - East Coast labor union member,
 - Politician running for national office.
2. Once you have assigned group roles, you will break into your jigsaw groups to analyze the cartoons.
3. Return to your original group to share your analysis.

Cartoon	Opinion of the Writer/Artist of the Cartoon	Chinese Immigrants Opinion	Californian labor union member's opinion	East Coast labor union member's Opinion	Politician's Opinion
Original Caption: <i>The Chinese Plague.</i> <i>Father Knickerbocker: What shall I do</i> <i>with this darn'd locust horde? They'll eat</i> <i>up all my labor crop!</i>					
Original Caption: <i>"(Dis)-Honors Are Easy.' Now Both</i> <i>Parties Have Something to Hang On."</i>					
Original Caption: <i>The Chinese Qustion;</i> <i>Columbia: "Hands of, Gentlemen!"</i> <i>America means fair play for all men."</i> http://www.csub.edu/~gsantos/img0050.html					