

## Assessing with Primary Sources

**Grade Level:** Grade 6  
**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS. RI.6.7. Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

### Library of Congress Resources:



A political cartoon that depicts problems with funding zika.

Specific pages used:

By Steve Sack (Minneapolis Star Tribune/Courtesy of CagleCartoons.com 2016)

Text retrieved from: <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/29/us/politics/congress-zika-funding.html>

### Topic Background:

The Zika virus, first identified in Uganda in 1947, is transmitted by the same type of mosquito that carries dengue fever, yellow fever, and chikungunya virus. A mosquito bites an infected person and then passes those viruses to other people it bites. Outbreaks did not occur outside of Africa until 2007, when it spread to the South Pacific.

Excerpted from: <http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/zika-virus-symptoms-prevention>

### Source(s) Used:

The sources used for this assessment include news excerpts from New York Times website as well as a political cartoon by Steve Sack which depicts the difficulties and delays in funding zika virus research.

### Answer Key:

Students should be able to identify the best section in the text that supports the difficulty of getting funding to fight with zika. They should be able to use the information in the given picture to help write their answers. Supporting reasons should follow. The answer is in paragraph two.

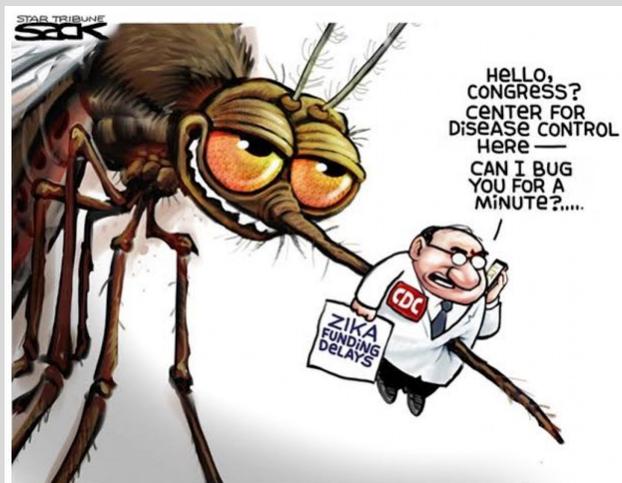
**Directions:** After examining the excerpt from a newspaper article and the political cartoon, answer the question below to help you corroborate (compare) both sources.

### Zika Bill Is Blocked by Senate Democrats Upset Over Provisions [Excerpt]

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats on Tuesday blocked a federal spending bill that would have provided \$1.1 billion to fight the mosquito-borne Zika virus, saying Republicans had sabotaged the legislation with politically charged provisions. The move raised the possibility that no new money would be available soon to fight the disease as Southern states brace for a summer outbreak.

The stalemate, accompanied by a sharp war of words on the Senate floor, raised the prospect that the partisan divide in Congress was hindering the government’s ability to respond effectively to a pressing public health emergency.

“We have a public health crisis descending on our country,” Senator Mitch McConnell, Republican of Kentucky and the majority leader, said after the vote. “Pregnant women all across America are looking at this with dismay, utter dismay, as we sit here in a partisan gridlock manufactured by the other side.”



By Steve Sack (Minneapolis Star Tribune/Courtesy of CagleCartoons.com 2016)

Underline the portion of the text best supports the argument the cartoonist is making in the illustration and explain why in the space provided below.

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