

Assessing with Primary Sources

Grade Level: High School (Grades 9-10)

Standards or Objectives: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.1
Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.6
Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose.

Library of Congress Resources:



“Would You Like to Supersize Your Chances of Heart Disease and Breast Cancer Ma’am?”

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2004666721/>

Topic Background:

Obesity is a common and serious condition. More than one-third (34.9% or 78.6 million) of U.S. adults are considered obese. Obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, which are all some of the leading causes of preventable death. There is no single or simple solution to the obesity epidemic. It is a complex problem. The key to achieving and maintaining a healthy weight is healthy eating and regular physical activity. Americans have access to inexpensive, easy, and quick meal options at fast-food restaurants in almost every part of the country. Many people continue to choose to eat this type of food daily, even knowing that serious health issues may occur.

Excerpted from: <http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html>
<http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/strategies/index.html>

Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is an editorial cartoon created in 2003 by artist Ann Telnaes. The title of the cartoon, which is the same as the text in the cartoon, is “Would You Like to Supersize Your Chances of Heart Disease and Breast Cancer Ma’am?” The cartoon shows obese employees and patrons at a popular fast food restaurant. This restaurant includes the menu option of “supersizing”.

Multiple Choice Answer Key:

Question 1 – C

Question 2 – A

**Would You Like to Supersize Your Chances
of Heart Disease & Breast Cancer Ma'am?**
By Ann Telnaes



Questions:

1. According to the image, which statement best summarizes the artist's central claim regarding the relationship between popular eating habits and common health issues of Americans? (CCSS.ELA-RI.9-10.6)
 - a. While choosing to eat at a fast-food restaurant, people should stick with small portion sizes to avoid the risk of developing heart disease and cancer.
 - b. Eating large portion sizes of fast food has caused many Americans to become obese.
 - c. People in the United States continue to make daily food choices that contribute to their increased risk of developing heart disease and cancer.
 - d. Fast-food restaurants, such as McDonald's, are responsible for Americans' obesity and high rate of heart disease and cancer.

2. Which detail in the drawing is the most important for understanding the author's point of view? (CCSS.ELA-RI.9-10.1)
 - a. The obesity of both the employee and the patrons is greatly exaggerated.
 - b. The label on the french fries clearly indicates which fast-food restaurant is depicted.
 - c. The heads and faces are drawn extremely small relative to the large body sizes.
 - d. The only visible feature of the menu is the part that shows the supersize options.