Assessing with Primary Sources

Grade Level: Standard(s) or Objectives: Middle School (6-8)

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.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. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.2 - Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

Morris Library Special Collections Resource:



Cartoon from *The Daily Egyptian* News Paper, November 19, 1968. <u>http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/de_November1968</u>

Topic Background:

Newspaper cartoons have historically been a way newspapers have expressed ideas about political and topical issues. Examining political cartoons is an engaging way to learn about the past and the what is going on now.

Source Used:

The source used for this assessment is a cartoon from a 1968 edition of *The Daily Egyptian*, a local Southern Illinois newspaper. This document would make a fun introduction to political cartoon analysis because of its light criticism on classroom culture.

Answer Key:

Question 1 – D Question 2: The successful student will:

- 1. Identify an element of the image that tells you the teacher does not run a democratic classroom (the royal robe, throne, crown, etc.).
- 2. The student will also explain that these items are associated with nondemocratic forms of government such as a monarchy.

Sample Answer: The crown the teacher is wearing tells me he is not running a democratic classroom. Crowns are often used as symbols of a nondemocratic government such as an absolute monarchy.

SIU Southern Illinois University



Daily Egyptian Political Cartoon, November 19, 1968.

Questions:

1) Which statement best expresses the relationship between the image and the text in this document? (CCSS RI.6.7)

- A. The image supports the claim made in the text because they both represent the same kind of government.
- B. The image supports the claim made in the text because they represent different kinds of government.
- C. The image does not support the claim made in the text because they both represent the same kind of government.
- D. The image does not support the claim made in the text because they represent different kinds of government.

2) Which detail of the image tells you the teacher does not run a democratic classroom? (CCSS RI.6.2)

Name one specific detail in the image that tells you the teacher does not run a democratic classroom. Explain why the detail tells you this information.