Analyzing caricatures

Name: Date:

The new relationship between workers and entrepreneurs“, source: caricature from the ”Neue Postillon", Zurich, Switzerland 1896.

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The first impression

In order to analyze a caricature, it is first important to record the first impression. This will help the next steps of the analysis.

📝Task

Make a note of your first impression. What is the first thing you notice? What feelings, thoughts or reactions does the caricature trigger?

Determine whether the given statements are true or false.

The cartoon was published in Zurich, Switzerland.

○ True ○ False

The title of the cartoon is 'Das neue Verhältnis zwischen Arbeiter und Unternehmer'.

○ True ○ False

The cartoonist's name is clearly mentioned in the description.

○ True ○ False

The cartoon was published in the year 1906.

○ True ○ False

The formal analysis

The analysis of a caricature follows several steps. Now use this profile for a formal analysis by first describing the caricature in detail.

Title

Author

Publication date

Source

Theme

Description- People and objects

Description- Plot

Description- Symbols and metaphors

Title

Das neue Verhältnis zwischen Arbeiter und Unternehmer

Author

Unknown

Publication date

1896

Source

Neuer Postillon, Zurich, Switzerland

Theme

The cartoon critiques the exploitation of workers within the capitalist system.

Description- People and objects

The cartoon features two capitalists in top hats wringing out a worker like a wet towel, while coins fall into a basin labeled 'Capitalism's collecting basin'.

Description- Plot

The cartoon depicts the harsh treatment and exploitation of workers by capitalists, symbolizing the economic disparity and social injustices of the time.

Description- Symbols and metaphors

The overflowing basin of coins represents the wealth accumulated by capitalists, while the limp posture of the workers symbolizes their exhaustion and hopelessness.

Interpretation & evaluation

The final step of our analysis involves interpreting and evaluating the caricature.

Explain how the cartoon uses imagery to depict the relationship between workers and capitalists.

Evaluate the effectiveness of the cartoon in conveying its critique of capitalism.