



EDITORIAL CARTOON

# NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA

– HOW TO COUNTER THE THREAT?



## YOUR TASK:

Examine the editorial cartoon. Then, use the questions below to help you decode the cartoon's message. Be specific and include as many details as possible in your answers. *Note:* Background information on what editorial cartoons are and what techniques cartoonists use is available for download at [www.lesplan.com/en/subscribers](http://www.lesplan.com/en/subscribers)

**INITIAL READING:** What can an initial look reveal?

1. Glance quickly at the cartoon. What is your first impression – your “gut response”?
2. Consider your background knowledge. What do you already know about the context of the cartoon – the time, place or situation? (List key facts.)

**CLOSER LOOK:** What's happening in the cartoon?

3. Find **labels**. How do the words (or numbers) in the drawing express ideas or identify people or objects? What message do the labels send?
4. Notice the **caricature**. How do the exaggerated, oversimplified or distorted features of the figures or objects add to the effect of the cartoon? What message does this send the reader?
5. Identify the **symbols**. What do these signs or images represent? How do they add to the message of the cartoon?

**DRAW CONCLUSIONS:** What overall impression can you draw?

6. Identify possible biases. Whose perspective or point of view is expressed in the cartoon?
7. Explain the overall message of the cartoon in a paragraph. (Remember, a good interpretation is *specific* and *detailed*.) ★

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