

Lesson Plan: *Drawing a Political Cartoon*

1. If you have not done so already, cut out political cartoons from the daily paper and bring them to school. Tell the class what you think the message of each cartoon is.
2. Look at the cartoon below. It was published in *Puck*, a monthly publication of political satire. *Puck* was published from 1877 to 1918 in New York. It was written in both English and German. This 1897 cartoon comes from the German edition of *Puck*. What do you think the cartoon is saying? Can you find these words and sentences in the cartoon?

What fools these mortals be!

Hawai‘i

McKinley



(Courtesy of Hawaiian Society)

A literal translation of the words at the bottom is 'Against a forced marriage, in which neither of the parties could experience a particular happiness.' What do you think it means?

3. Look at the cartoon at the beginning of the reading "A Time for Strategy." What do you think it is trying to say?
4. Now it's your turn to draw a political cartoon.
 - a. Reread the text of sections 1 and 2.
 - b. With a partner, brainstorm ideas for a cartoon that would show any aspect of the political situation in Hawai'i from 1900 to 1921. Use your imagination. Be creative. You can draw a cartoon even if you do not consider yourself an artist. Use symbols to portray your message.
 - c. Some general ideas follow to get you started. You will need to make them more specific. You may think of ideas that are not listed here.
 - The oligarchy's control of the Islands during the territorial days
 - The oligarchy's view of voting rights and who should be able to vote
 - The changes in voting qualifications made by the Organic Act
 - The victory of the Home Rule party and Robert Wilcox in the 1900 election
 - The Territorial Legislature under the control of the Home Rule party
 - The Republican party's attempt to persuade Kūhiō to run on the Republican ticket
 - Prince Kūhiō's decision to run as a Republican
 - Kūhiō's experiences and frustrations as the delegate to Congress.
 - d. Try several ideas and choose the best one.
 - e. Use colors to make your cartoon more attractive.

Contributed by: Linda Menton and Eileen Tamura, A History of Hawai'i, Curriculum Research & Development Group, College of Education, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, HI