

Section Three: Chunking Cartoons for year 12 (1900-1945)

Disclaimer- There could be more than one valid student response to cartoon interpretation. All student responses have to be judged in relation to the cartoon being analysed.

How to Chunk a Cartoon: A step by step approach

1. While 'scaffolding' a cartoon is the process of building a cartoon up piece by piece, 'chunking' is about highlighting or shading parts of a cartoon in order to give that part of the cartoon greater attention.
2. In this section, look at the instructions for each cartoon, then make as many copies of the whole cartoon onto overhead sheets as the instructions require. One cartoon may require 5 copies while another may require 6 copies. Mark the chunked cartoons as 'copy 1', 'copy 2', and so on.
3. Highlight or shade according to the instructions. Each copy of the cartoon will have different shading or highlighting. The cartoon copies are NOT designed to be overlaid on one another.
4. Tell or remind students that cartoonists often express opinions about the actions of Australians or important events that affect Australians.
5. On the following page is an overview example of how to 'chunk' a cartoon.



(Title): Enthusiasm is not enough
(Caption): 'Give it a belt with this, cobber!'



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The message of this cartoon is:

A greeting that austerity is a good thing is not enough. Everyone has to make an effort to reduce their spending on non-essential items (including frivolous things like a fun fair), to recycle goods and to put money into war loans. If everyone pulls together then the 'homefront army' will have a much bigger impact (like the soldier with the big mallet) than just a few people on their own (like Prime Minister John Curtin and his small mallet). It's a 'put your money where your mouth is' idea.



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