

POLITICAL CARTOONS

*How to complete the
MO-Assignment: Political Cartoon*

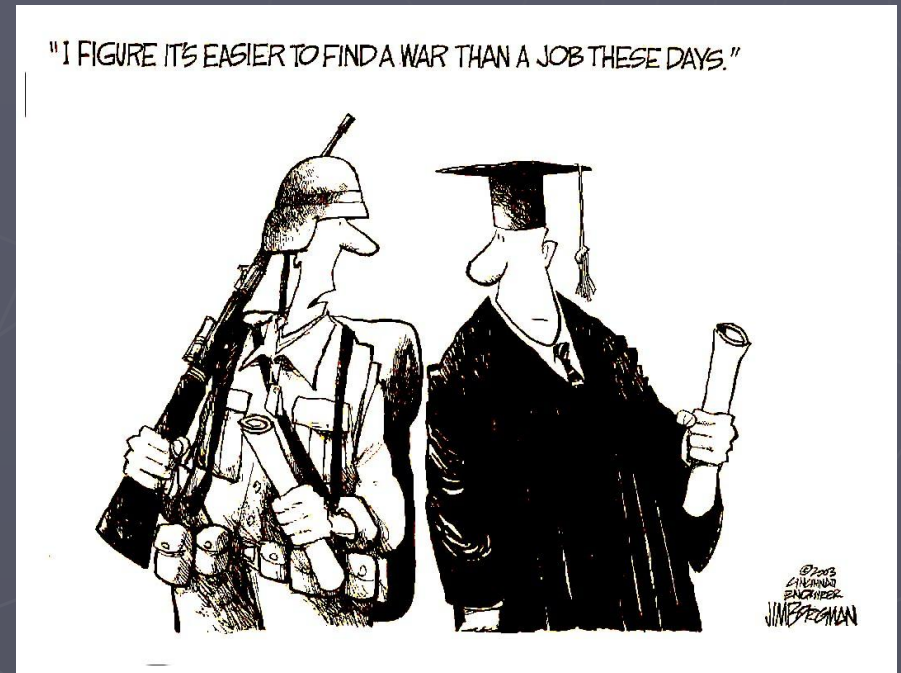
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. List what you see in the cartoon.
2. Which of the items on the list are symbols? What does each stand for?
3. What is the background story of the cartoon? (Who, what, when, where, why...)
4. What is the artist's feelings about this topic? Why do you think this?

****Once you've answered these questions, you're ready to write your paragraph about the cartoon.**

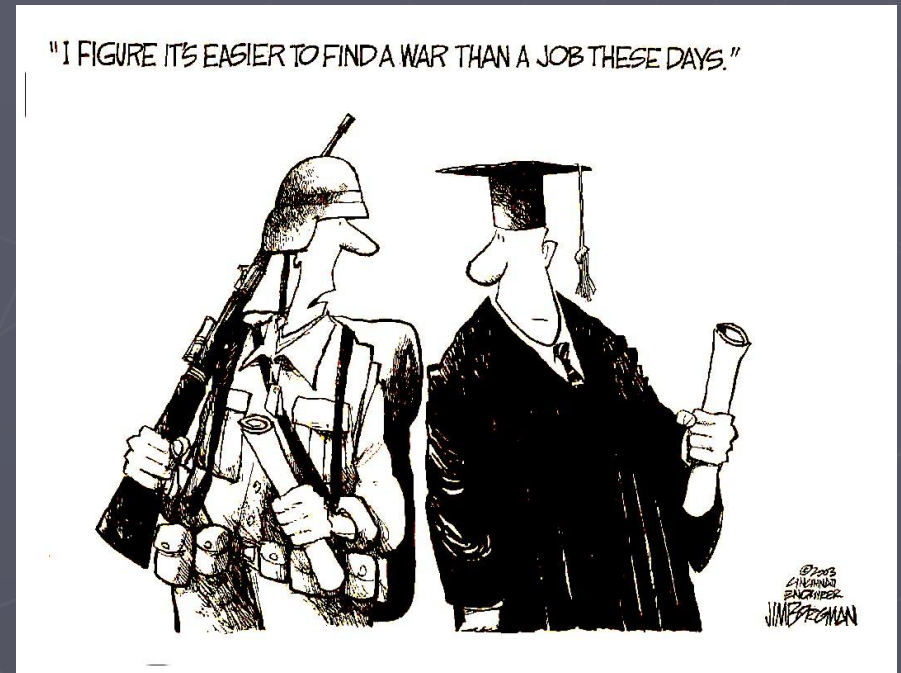
AN EXAMPLE: LIST ITEMS

- ▶ Military soldier
- ▶ College graduate
- ▶ Soldier is holding a gun
- ▶ Graduate is holding a diploma
- ▶ Soldier is also holding a diploma
- ▶ Words: I figure it's easier to find a war than a job these days.



AN EXAMPLE: SYMBOLS

- ▶ Diplomas & guns = what people can “earn”
- ▶ Soldier may represent war
- ▶ Graduate may represent the lack of jobs



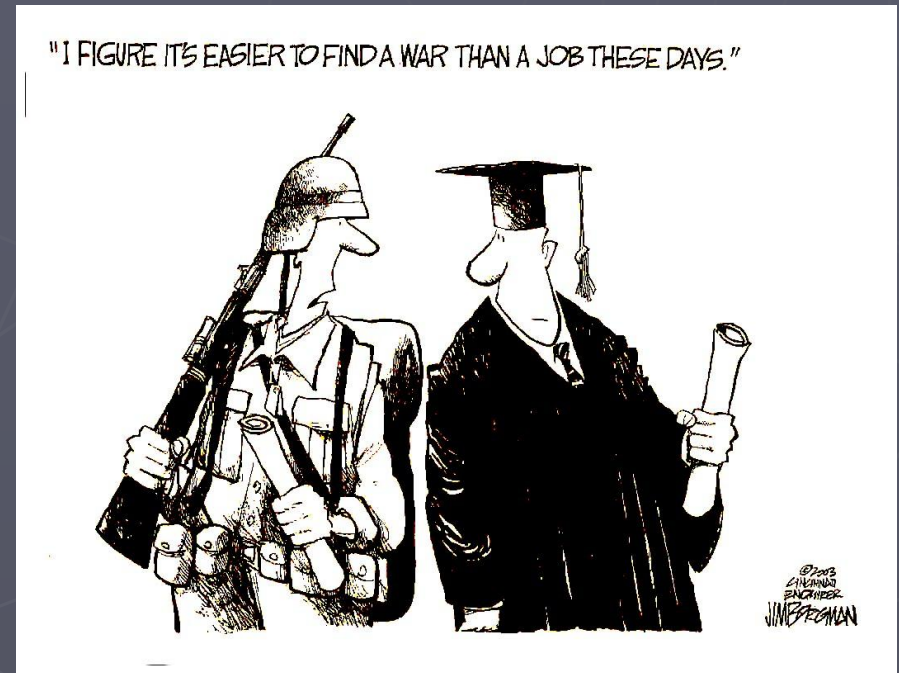
AN EXAMPLE: BACKGROUND

- ▶ There are many wars being fought, many with the U.S. as the "police."
- ▶ Economically, people are hurting; unemployment is rising and it is difficult to find jobs, especially for those who just get out of college.



AN EXAMPLE: ARTIST'S FEELINGS

- ▶ The artist thinks that there are not a lot of jobs.
- ▶ The artist may be bitter...maybe he/she is out of college and wants a job, but can't find one?
- ▶ The artist may think that we are involved in too many wars, and not enough is being done in our own country.



THE FINAL PARAGRAPH

- ▶ "The political cartoon drawn by Jim Borgman in 2003 offers a harsh commentary on the prospects of college graduates in this era of war and economic crisis. The picture shows two young men standing side by side holding diplomas; one is dressed in a graduation gown, and the other is dressed in combat fatigues. The caption reads, "I figure it's easier to find a war than a job these days." Both young men look bewildered and sad, which is appropriate given the choice they seem to be facing, go to war or be unemployed. The facial expressions reveal the cartoonist's attitude of frustration and disbelief over what this country has come to and the limited future young people now face."