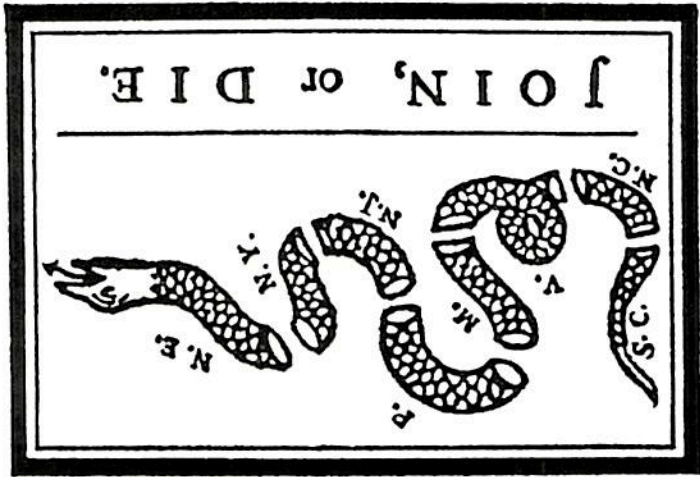


Cartoon Analysis

In June 1754 delegates from most of the northern colonies and representatives from the Six Iroquois Nations met in Albany, New York. There they adopted a "plan of union" drafted by Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania. Under this plan each colonial legislature would elect delegates to an American continental assembly presided over by a royal governor. This "Albany Plan of Union" was designed to help unite the American colonists in their fight against the French, in the French and Indian War. The colonial delegates found however, the colonists were not ready for union, nor were the colonial assemblies ready to give up their recent and hard-won control over local affairs to a central government. That would not happen until well after the American settlements had declared their independence.

The following cartoon was created by Benjamin Franklin and shared during his presentation of the Albany Plan. It is thought to be the first "American" cartoon.



1. List the objects and/or people you see in the cartoon.

2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols?

3. What does each of the symbols represent?

4. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title.

5. Locate the words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify the objects or people within the cartoon. Write them.

6. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.

7. Which of the words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so?

8. List at least 3 adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon. Include who/what is displaying those emotions.

9. What action is taking place in the cartoon? Describe it.

10. Explain how the words in the cartoon help clarify the symbols.

11. Explain the message of the cartoon in complete thought.

12. What special interest groups would agree/disagree with the cartoons message? Explain.

Political Cartoon