WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF CARTOONS?
• Cartoons are created for many different reasons.

• Sometimes they are used to convey humour and in other instances they are used to make fun of a serious situation or event.

• This is known as satire.
WHAT IS A SATIRE
• Satire is the use of humour, irony, exaggeration or ridicule to expose or criticise an event, situation or a person’s actions.

• Very often satire is used in newspapers and articles with regard to politics.

• Satirical cartoons are funny as long as you understand the issue that is being dealt with.
TIPS FOR ANALYSING CARTOONS
• Analyse the cartoon as a whole before you start answering any questions – you can’t answer questions until you understand the cartoon.

• Identify the purpose of the cartoon – is it just meant to be funny? Is there a message? What issue is being dealt with?
Keep the following in mind as well

**Setting**
When and where is the cartoon set?
What is the particular social context?

**Characters**
What actions and emotions are communicated through body language?
What emotions are communicated through facial expressions?
What does the body language suggest about the relationship between the characters?
Action
What is happening in the cartoon?
How is the action portrayed?

Language
What words have been used?
How has punctuation been used to suggest emotion?

Stereotypes/ Symbols
Has the cartoonist made use of stereotypes?
Caricatures

A caricature is a drawing of a public figure that shows exaggerated features for easy identification.

Caricatures can be insulting or complimentary (meaning it can serve for political purposes or for entertainment)
Four easy steps when analysing a cartoon

1. Body language
2. Pictures in frames
3. Speech bubbles
4. Point/Conclusion
FRAME 1

WHATCHA DOIN', ELMO?
PLAYIN' TEXT 'N' SEEK, MR. B!
I COUNT TO TEN ON MY CELL PHONE!

FRAME 2

WHEN I'M DONE, I TEXT EVERYONE WHO'S HIDING!
Ready or not, here I come!

FRAME 3

I'M KINDA GLAD I GREW UP IN THE HANDS-FREE GENERATION!

[Source: YOU, July 2010]
Complete the activity based on the cartoon on the previous slide

Questions

1. Refer to frame 1.
   Name the game that the children are playing. (1)

2. Refer to frame 1.
   What, do you think, does the repetition of the word ‘beep’ tell us? (2)

3. Refer to frames 1 and 2.
   How can you tell that the boy enjoys playing the game? (2)

4. Refer to frame 2.
   Why are the words ‘Ready or not, here I come!’ written in bold. (2)

5. Refer to frame 3.
   Identify a word that suggests Mr B is pleased that he did not grow up in Elmo’s generation. (1)
Frame 1:

YOU WENT THROUGH A RED ROBOT!

OH, I THOUGHT IT WAS PART OF THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

Frame 2:

WELL, YOU CAN ALSO THINK I'M FATHER CHRISTMAS GIVING YOU A R500 FINE AS A PRESENT!
Question 2

Study the strip on the previous slide and answer the questions that follow:

2.1 Refer to FRAME 1 of the cartoon.

What does the traffic officer’s pointing finger tell you about his mood? (2)

2.2 What do you think of the driver’s excuse in FRAME 1? (2)

2.3 Refer to FRAME 2 of the cartoon.

Complete the sentence below by choosing the correct answer from the list provided. Write down only the question number and the letter corresponding to the correct answer.

The tone of the traffic officer’s tone in frame 2 is:

a. Sympathetic
b. Cheerful
c. Pessimistic
d. Sarcastic (1)

2.4 Look at the face of the driver in Frame 2. Do you think he was satisfied with what happened? Motivate your answer. (3)

2.5 Look at the outfits (clothes) of the two characters in the cartoon. What seems to be odd/strange about what they wearing? (2)

Total: 10 marks