

Name _____ Date _____

Interpreting Political Cartoons D3 Student Activity Sheet



Courtesy of the Virtual Museum of the City of San Francisco.

Not all cartoons are meant to be funny. Political cartoons express an opinion about events, and often use symbols to show ideas. Examine this political cartoon carefully, and answer the following questions.

1. What symbol of the United States do you see? _____

2. Which group of people do you think are on the truck? _____

3. From where are they being moved? _____

4. According to the cartoon, where are they going? _____

5. What opinion do you think this cartoon is expressing? _____

6. Do you think the author supported the forced removal of Japanese Americans? _____

7. What do you think the title of the cartoon means? _____

8. In which newspaper did this cartoon appear? When? _____

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Reading the Poetry of Lawson Fusao Inada D4 Student Activity Sheet

Lawson Fusao Inada, born in 1938, was one of the youngest Japanese Americans to live in the camp at Jerome, Arkansas. He was "Sansei" or third generation.

Directions: Read the two poems by Lawson Fusao Inada and answer the questions that follow.

The Legend of Lost Boy

Lost Boy was not his name.

He had another name, a given name—
at another, given time and place—
but those were taken away.

The road was taken away.
The dog was taken away.
The food was taken away.
The house was taken away.

The boy was taken away—
but he was not lost.
Oh, no— he knew exactly where he was...
(Inada 10)

Concentration Constellation

It sits there like a jagged scar,
massive, on the massive landscape.
It lies there like the rusted wire
of a twisted and remembered fence.
(Inada 28)

Name _____ Date _____

1. Who is the poet? _____

2. Who do you think is the "The Lost Boy?"

3. How does the poet show that the "Lost Boy"'s identity was taken away? (Use lines from the poem.) _____

4. Why do you think that Inada writes the boy "was not lost,... he knew exactly where he was"? _____

If you were to visit Jerome, Arkansas today, you would see very little of the camp that existed in the 1940s. The one huge remaining structure is the red-brick smokestack from the medical center that can be seen for miles around.

5. Why do you think that Inada named this poem "Concentration Constellation?" _____

6. What feelings do you think Mr. Inada has about this structure?

