

**Created by:** Patrick Johnson, Triad High School

**Grade level:** 10 - American Studies

**Primary Source Citation** "A Tank Full of Gas, and the Open Road," 1937. FDR Cartoon Archive: [http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/fdr/1937/37\\_scgifs/large/37012007.gif](http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/fdr/1937/37_scgifs/large/37012007.gif).

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the cartoon while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

### **Level I: Description**

1. What type of source is this?
2. Who does the man represent?
3. What is the man doing to the car?

### **Level II: Interpretation**

1. When do you believe this cartoon was made?
2. What does the title of the cartoon imply about the New Deal and Franklin D. Roosevelt?
3. Why is the saying on the bumper of the car significant to Roosevelt's 2<sup>nd</sup> term in office?

### **Level III: Analysis**

1. Do you believe the cartoonist is in favor of New Deal legislation? Why?
2. Do you believe this cartoon is written for an audience in support or in opposition to President Roosevelt? What reasons do you believe this?
3. What other questions do you believe Uncle Sam (or the people of the United States) should have posed to Roosevelt as he began his second term in office? What issues still remained among the population?

A Tank Full of Gas, and the Open Road

