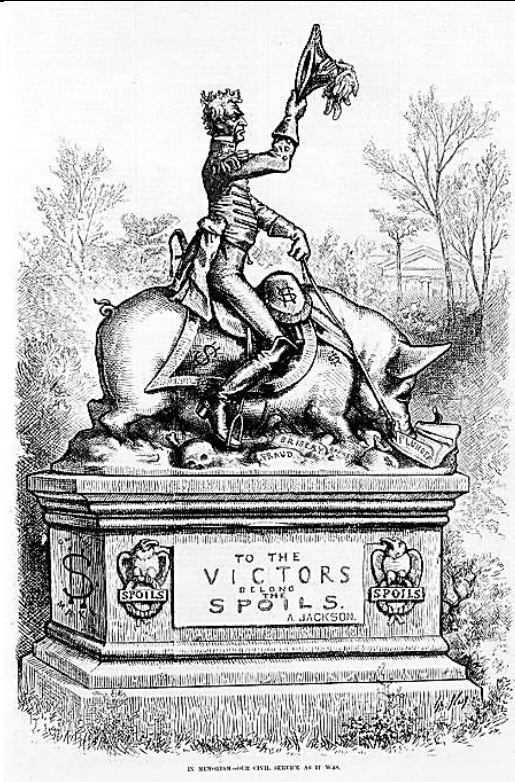


## Analysing a political cartoon

Instructions: The two sets of questions below are intended to be cyclical. After you finish answering both, ask yourself, "What more can I find?" and go back to the same two questions. Continue the process until you have thoroughly investigated the cartoon. Use the back of this sheet if necessary.



Thomas Nast, "In Memoriam – our civil service as it was", *Harper's Weekly*, 1877

### 1. OBSERVE

What can you see? Pay attention to the details.

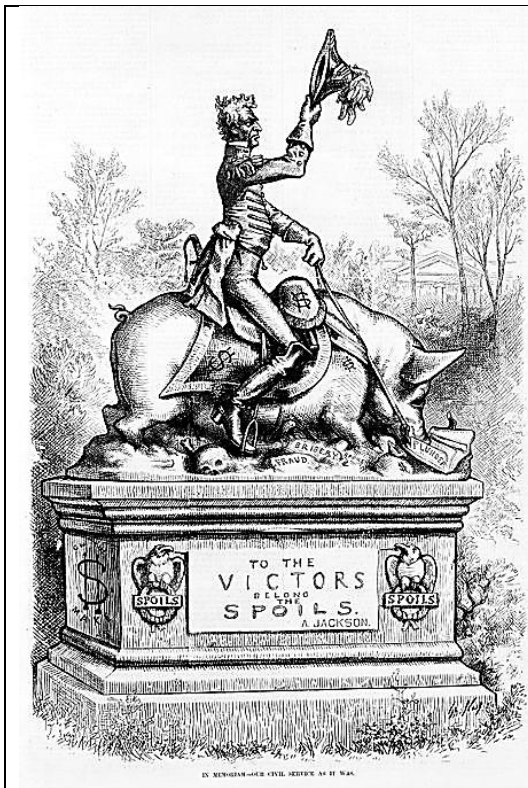
### 2. THINK

What does it mean? What does the artist want?  
How does the artist persuade the audience?

CARTOONIST'S STANCE :

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1. OBSERVE What can you see? Pay attention to the details.	2. THINK What does it mean? What does the artist want? How does the artist persuade the audience?
There is a memorial statue.	This is something of the past – a statue (dis)honouring the memory of Andrew Jackson.
The <b>plaque</b> reads "To the victors, the spoils", a quote by Andrew Jackson.	It means that this is going to be Andrew Jackson's <b>legacy</b> (the fact that the winner gets to do whatever he wants)
Two eagles are holding plaques with the word "spoils"	The US (eagle) government was reduced to mere spoils of war.
Andrew Jackson is wearing a military uniform and <b>saluting</b> with his hat.	Andrew Jackson thought himself grand.
The statue represents Andrew Jackson who is riding a pig in a <b>saddle</b> with a dollar symbol (also present on the <b>base</b> of the statue)...	Pigs are gluttonous animals that will eat anything. They are not as noble as horses: Andrew Jackson <b>debased himself</b> by heeding the call of money.
...walking over fraud and <b>bribery</b> ...	AJ did not care about these.
...and eating <b>plunder</b> in a bag full of papers.	American affairs were <b>gutted</b> to satisfy AJ's <b>power hunger</b> .
There is a <b>skull</b>	Andrew Jackson's spoil system was <b>vain</b> .
The cartoonist <b>decries</b> AJ's management of his term in office. He feels that money took over the country's interests (civil service) during his presidency.	

From what you know, does this system endure even though it is supposed not to?