Economic Cartoons

Study this cartoon and review the sections entitled “Banking and the Great Depression” and “Banking Reforms After the Great Depression” on page 255 before answering the questions below.

1. (a) Who is the lion tamer? (b) What does the lion represent?

2. Drawing Inferences  Inaugurated as President on March 4, Roosevelt immediately faced “the lion.” Why does the cartoonist have Roosevelt saying what he says to the “March lion?”

3. Synthesizing Information  What kind of financial crisis did the Roosevelt Administration face in the 1930s?

4. Recognizing Cause and Effect  (a) What led to the crisis in the banking system? (b) What short-term and long-term steps did Roosevelt take to end the banking crisis and reform the banking system?

5. Recognizing Points of View  Does the cartoonist approve of the way Roosevelt is handling the crisis? How can you tell?