

Propaganda Responsibilities

You are responsible for researching at least five forms of propaganda, making sure that your virtual museum answers the following questions. The countries recommended are the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Soviet Union, Japan, and Canada. Propaganda can be in the form of posters, movies, music, speeches, photographs, cartoons, or literature.

(1) What country is the propaganda from?

(2) What type of propaganda is the piece? For example, is it a poster, flyer / handout, photograph, cartoon, booklet, or speech?

(3) What do you see, hear, etc. in the propaganda? (Symbols, words, numbers, music, etc.)

(4) What is the subject of the propaganda? For example, is it about patriotism, recruitment, rationing, factories and employment, war bonds and savings, fear of enemy? How can you tell?

(5) Does the propaganda contain a hidden / implied message? For example, propaganda encouraging women to work in factories could imply that such employment would benefit the war effort because factories could ensure that supplies needed by the soldiers could be manufactured in a timely manner.

(6) Who was the intended audience? For example, was it aimed at soldiers, women, workers, teenagers?

(7) Does the propaganda glamorize or vilify the war or the countries and people involved?

(8) What effect do you think the propaganda had on the people of its country of origin during World War II? For example, American propaganda that promotes rationing of goods needed for the war effort would cause Americans on the home front to make cut backs on what they purchase.