

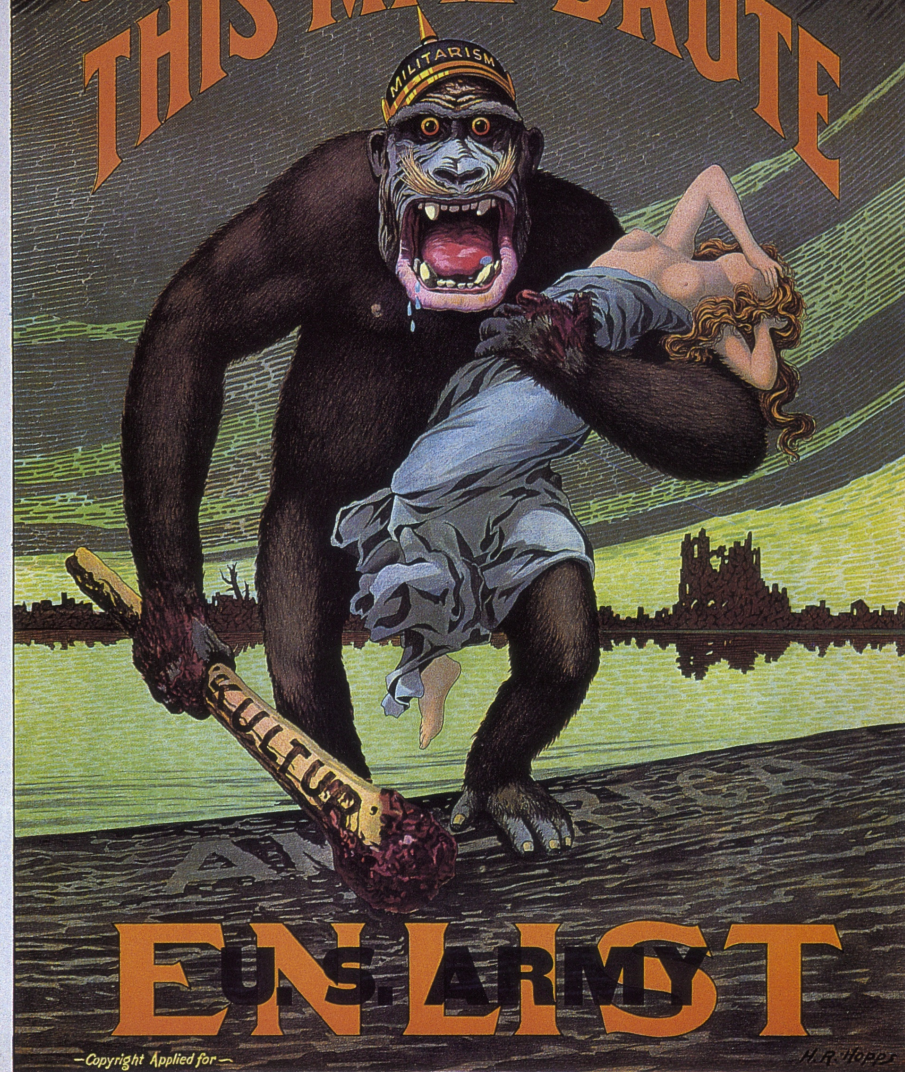
“Destroy This Mad Brute!”

Close-Reading a Cultural Object



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- **Each group member:** open a new Word document for yourself.
 - **Whole group:** Appoint one group member to create a group Google document, make it viewable and editable, and share the link with the group. I'll show you how to do this now.

DESTROY
THIS MAD BRUTE



ENLIST
U.S. ARMY

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- 1. **Individually**: In four minutes, write down every detail that catches your eye in the image. Don't try to interpret. Don't worry about writing in complete sentences. Just jot down every little ***detail*** you can see.

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- ➡ **2. As a group:** In five minutes, choose the ten most important details out of *everyone's* list, the ones that stand out the most or seem to have the most significance. Write these down on the group's page.

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- **3. Individually:** In six minutes, write seven or eight sentences discussing what you think these details mean or how they fit together. Don't try to address all ten; choose the ones that stand out most to you, and make a different interpretation with each sentence. Ex: If "Color scheme" is a detail: "The image's color scheme draws the viewer's attention to the text..."

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- ➡ 4. **As a group:** In four minutes, place a check mark beside five sentences (out of *everyone's*) that seem to connect to each other well. Write one sentence that sums up what these sentences reveal about the image. (Each group ends up with one new sentence.) When you're done, place this new sentence at the top of the group document, and place the supporting (marked) sentences below it to form a paragraph.



Close-Reading

- ➡ Each group now has a thesis and supporting body sentences organized by particular details; you've written a paper! More importantly, you've written **an entire paper about one image**; not a century, not an entire discipline, but one small thing.



Close-Reading

- ➡ Use this way of thinking in your close readings (and presentation) to deepen your analysis! If you've spent one paragraph analyzing a textual image, commenting on a pattern, etc., try spending a whole page on it...or more! This focus and depth is the key to producing helpful, original research.



Close-Reading

- Let's review each group's analysis.
- More info about the poster (for fun):
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/
File:'Destroy_this_mad_brute'_WWI_pr
opaganda_poster_%28US_version%2
9.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:'Destroy_this_mad_brute'_WWI_propaganda_poster_%28US_version%29.jpg)