



Western Civilization from 1650 to Present

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WEB ACTIVITY 3. THE WAR ON TERRORISM: TRUTH OR PROPAGANDA?

<p>INTRODUCTION Propaganda</p>	<p>There is so much information (and misinformation) in the news today about the War in Iraq and terrorist attacks that it is hard to know what to believe. How can you tell if news is being reported objectively or if it is propaganda (i.e., any form of communication in support of national objectives designed to influence the opinions, emotions, attitudes, or behavior of any group in order to benefit the sponsor, either directly or indirectly)?</p>
<p>THE TASK</p>	<p>In this Web Activity you will discover the role of propaganda in international relations, especially warfare, and the various techniques of propaganda employed to sway public opinion.</p>
<p>Various Perspectives</p>	<p>You and your team will read and analyze reports of the war and its aftermath found in news media in various countries in order to gain an understanding of propaganda techniques.</p> <p>After examining the various perspectives, you will present your findings to the class comparing and contrasting the propaganda techniques that you discover in each perspective.</p>
<p>Analyzing the News</p>	<p>You will answer these questions about the news you analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Who says this is true? ▪ Who benefits from this message? ▪ What is its purpose?
<p>THE PROCESS Historical Perspective</p>	<p>First: Let's gain some historical perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legacy of the Persian Gulf War http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/inatl/longterm/fogofwar/fogofwar.htm ▪ 911 Terrorist Attack http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/photo/attack/newyork/1.htm ▪ War on Terrorism http://www.cia.gov/terrorism/publications/Counter_Terrorism_Strategy.pdf
<p>Where Are We Now?</p>	<p>Next: Where are we now?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President Bush's Address to the Nation (3/17/03) http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Lincoln_HS/Burleson/Lessons/US_Iraq/ ▪ Current The Whitehouse News http://www.whitehouse.gov/ ▪ War with Iraq http://www.c-span.org/classroom/current/iraq_war.asp



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<p>What Should We Believe?</p>	<p>What should we believe?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognize the role of propaganda in international relations, especially warfare, and the various techniques of propaganda employed. http://members.aol.com/MrDonnUnits/Propaganda.html#INTRO ▪ Learn to think critically about the media. http://www.pearsoncollege.ca/media_criticism/02athinkingcrit.html
<p>Compare News Coverage</p>	<p>Then: Compare/contrast news coverage of the US/Iraq conflict from various sources.</p> <p>Your Team will select four different news agencies to follow events of the conflict between US and Iraq. Each team member will analyze a report of the war from one of the four news agencies that you select. Discuss these articles in your team, and together compare and contrast the news reports from the four different perspectives.</p>
<p>Group Presentation & List of References</p>	<p>Finally: Prepare a concise, well-organized, and dramatic multimedia presentation comparing and contrasting the various perspectives and identifying the propaganda techniques that you discover. It should include a list of references, using the appropriate MLA bibliographical formats (http://pioneer95118.tripod.com/mustangresources/id12.html).</p> <p>In addition to the group presentation, each individual will respond in writing to the following reflection questions and source evaluation:</p>
<p>First Reflection Question</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why do the media sometimes use propaganda techniques when reporting the news? How extensive is this practice in the United States? Elsewhere?
<p>Second Reflection Question</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What role has war played historically in resolving international disputes? Are there alternatives which should be explored?
<p>Source Evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What was your best source (i.e., what specific resource was most helpful in completing this project)?
<p>RESOURCES</p>	<p>Find an event that is reported by four different news sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Whitehouse News (United States Government) http://www.whitehouse.gov/ ▪ US Dept of Defense News http://www.defenselink.mil/news/articles.html ▪ US Central Command http://www.centcom.mil/Operations/Iraqi_Freedom/iraqifreedom.asp ▪ Cable News Network (United States) http://www.cnn.com/ ▪ United Nations News Center http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=50&Body=Iraq&Body1=inspect ▪ Iraq Daily (Iraq) http://www.iraqdaily.com/ ▪ Electronic Iraq http://electroniciraq.net/news/ ▪ British Broadcasting Company (United Kingdom) http://news.bbc.co.uk/ ▪ Ha'aretz (Israel) http://www.haaretzdaily.com/ ▪ Arabic News http://www.arabicnews.com/ ▪ Al-Ahram (Egypt) http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/ ▪ Arab News (Saudi Arabia)

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- <http://www.arabnews.com/>
- Turkey Post (Turkey)
<http://www.turkeypost.com/>
- Al-Jazeera (Independent Arab)
<http://www.aljazeera.info/>
- World News Network (news from around the world)
<http://www.wn.com/>
- NewsLink (news for around the U.S. and the world)
<http://newslink.org/>

Use this website to analyze your sources: "Thinking Critically about the World: Media"
(http://www.pearsoncollege.ca/media_criticism/02bcritss.html)

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Student Name:				Group:					
Assignment:									
EVALUATION CRITERIA									
		Does Not Meet Expectations		Meets Some Expectations		Meets All Expectations		Exceeds All Expectations	
GROUP PRESENTATION	Approach	6.5	Little evidence of originality and creativity in approach to project	7.5	Some evidence of originality and creativity in approach to project	8.5	Original and creative in approach to project	10	Extremely original and creative in approach to subject
	Knowledge	13	Presentation reflects little thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	15	Presentation reflects limited thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	17	Presentation reflects considerable thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	20	A well thought-out presentation reflecting extensive knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media
	Research	13	Little evidence of research and reading and no references	15	Some evidence of research and reading and some references but inaccurate format	17	Evidence of considerable research and reading and quite a few references in accurate format	20	Evidence of extensive research and reading and extensive references in accurate format
INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION	Knowledge	6.5	Paper reflects little thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	7.5	Paper reflects limited thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	8.5	Paper reflects considerable thought and knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media	10	A well thought-out paper reflecting extensive knowledge of propaganda techniques used by the media
	Research	6.5	Little evidence of research and reading	7.5	Some evidence of research and reading	8.5	Evidence of considerable research and reading	10	Evidence of extensive research and reading
	Reflection Question 1	6.5	A feeble attempt to answer reflection question on propaganda techniques used by the media	7.5	Answers reflection question on propaganda techniques used by the media but answer lacks clarity or depth	8.5	Answers reflection question on propaganda techniques used by the media well	10	Answers reflection question on propaganda techniques used by the media extremely well
	Reflection Question 2	6.5	A feeble attempt to answer reflection question on the role of war in resolving international disputes.	7.5	Answers reflection question on the role of war in resolving international disputes but answer lacks clarity or depth.	8.5	Answers reflection question on the role of war in resolving international disputes well	10	Answers reflection question on the role of war in resolving international disputes extremely well
SOURCE EVALUATION		6.5	Paper reflects little thought , gives no examples of why the source was helpful, and offers an inadequate explanation of what made it the "best" resource.	7.5	Paper reflects limited thought , gives some examples of why the source was helpful, and offers an adequate but incomplete explanation of what made it the "best" resource	8.5	Paper reflects considerable thought , gives several good examples of why the source was helpful, and offers an adequate and complete explanation of what made it the "best" resource	10	A well thought-out paper that gives several excellent examples of why the source was helpful and an insightful and complete explanation of what made it the "best" resource
Your Grade:									