World War I - Propaganda Posters

Vocabulary check: do you know what propaganda means?

Have a look at these examples of propaganda posters from World War I:











Consider the following questions and write down your ideas in your workbooks:

What do you think these posters are for? What are they trying to do? Think about who they are directed at. Can you pick out any similarities or differences between the posters?



Most of these posters are trying to <u>persuade</u> people to help with the war effort in one way or another. To do this they employ a number of different techniques such as:

Bandwagon - attempts to make one feel alone if he/she doesn't go along
Glittering Generalities - sounds really good, but says nothing
Plain Folks - attempt to connect with the "grass roots," ordinary people
Testimonial - use someone recognisable and respected to speak well of idea or product
Card Stacking - where you build a case with only favourable evidence or part truths
Transfer - attempt to associate a positive symbol with a candidate
Name Calling - to label one with something negative
Dehumanize the Enemy - portray the opposition as inhuman or as monsters/beasts
Emotional Appeal: create strong feelings or emotions i.e. Women and Children - build sympathy for your cause. Need to protect the vulnerable.

Patriotic Appeal:

Military - build support for military efforts Symbols - use of symbols such as Queen, Big Ben, Lion or Union Jack



Go online and investigate other examples of World War I propaganda posters. How many examples can you find which demonstrate each of the techniques listed above?



Your mission: create your own Propaganda Poster

- Use your artistic skills and draw/paint/colour/design a traditional poster
- You could create a persuasive advertisement and film it
- Why not write a persuasive speech and imagine yourself as an important general or politician?
- Perhaps you could take what you have learnt about persuasion and the
 techniques used in propaganda posters and apply it to something
 more current. For example, you could try to convince people to stay home
 during lockdown.



