

Teacher's Guide

This kit is designed to teach students to be aware of propaganda techniques. The text, exercises and two games are reproducible for student use.

The Propaganda Text and Exercises

The text has 9 reproducible pages and 16 exercises which accompany the text. The text describes 26 commonly used propaganda techniques. The exercises give the students practice in detecting the techniques in realistic situations.

Propaganda Game, Set 1

The game can be used as a group activity in class or as an individual activity. The class is divided into teams. Each team takes turns reading different scripts while the other teams must figure out which propaganda techniques are being used.

The students are provided 5 sheets: a description of the propaganda techniques that are used in the game, a score sheet and 3 pages of script. The game is played in two rounds so each team must read twice.

The techniques taught in game one are hasty generalization, faulty analogy, non sequitur, ad hominem, and attacking the strawman.

Propaganda Game, Set 2

The game is the same as set one but teaches different techniques. The techniques used in this game are rationalization, conservatism, moderatism, radicalism, over-simplification, post hoc and appeal to pity.

Propaganda

by Lawrence Stevens

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In the dialogue below a variety of propaganda techniques are used. Not every statement is a propaganda technique even though every statement has a place for an answer. If the statement is not a propaganda technique, leave the space blank.

The techniques that you are to identify are:

- A. Misery
- B. Attitude fitting
- C. Popular appeal
- D. Attacking the man
- E. The straw man
- F. Emotional words

Use the letters for your answers.

Gloria: I'm going to tell Homer to ask you out.

1.

Lisa: You can't do that. If anyone finds out, I'll just die. I'll be so embarrassed that I'll have to transfer to another school. I'll have to go to North Poly High.

2. _____

Jeannie: No! You can't do that! That place is just awful. I mean you can't go in the bathrooms. There are rapes and muggings. That place is awful.

3. _____

Gloria: What do you have against Homer?

4. _____

Jeannie: First of all, he's weird.

5. _____

Lisa: And he doesn't even own a car.

6. _____

Jeannie: I hear he's so weird that he owns his own computer. Now, that's bizarre.

7. _____

Gloria: But here's your chance, Lisa. You'll not only have a boyfriend, but he'll be unusual. And he's a brain. He'll probably be famous some day.

8. _____

Lisa: I don't want a boyfriend who is famous. I want a boyfriend who is normal, who has a car and money.

9. _____

Gloria: He has money. He doesn't have any car to waste his money on. He must have money. He's probably the richest boy in school.

10. _____

Lisa: And what am I going to go out in? He doesn't have his own car. I'll probably have to ride on his handlebars or skateboard.

11. _____

Gloria: Don't be silly. He can hire a cab, he's so rich.

12. _____