

## Symbolism and Visual Metaphor Video Transcripts

Symbolism is the art of using symbols to communicate ideas, and visual metaphors are using an image of one thing to identify with another of similar character. Both are pervasive in visual propaganda; consider the swastika, the Star of David, and the 'peace' sign.

Let's look at two such examples from WW2; the snake and the octopus. Both were used by the Axis and Allied countries to serve their respective purposes.

First, let's look at three different posters produced by three different countries using the octopus.



Next, let's look at three different posters produced by three different countries using the snake.



What significance do you think each poster conveys about the creature?

How do you think this aligns with the public's view of the enemy?

These are both important questions to consider when you are analyzing propaganda posters.