

Using the Materials

History Handouts

Each unit includes a concise two-page student history that covers the core historical knowledge and vocabulary that students will need in order to decode the posters. Key vocabulary items are highlighted in bold for quick review. Students should read these histories in class and/or for homework before the slide decoding. Depending upon the students' level of understanding, the teacher may want to reinforce or add to the readings with a brief review of that unit's history and vocabulary prior to the slide lesson.

Lessons

Each poster comes with a one-page lesson that begins with a translation of the text. The **BACKGROUND INFORMATION** introduces or reinforces knowledge students may need to answer the probe questions and should be communicated to the class before decoding the poster. Probe **QUESTIONS** ask students to apply their knowledge of Soviet and world history to each poster. The **SUGGESTED ANSWERS** and **EVIDENCE** are included as model evidence-based responses that address key historical and media visual literacy concepts and information. However, there is rarely one right answer to any of these interpretative questions, and the teacher should encourage multiple readings and a diversity of responses as long as students present evidence to back up their interpretations. It is important that students recognize that all people do not interpret media messages the same way. Most poster lessons include an additional **NOTE** that adds historical details that the teacher may choose to share during or after the decoding.

Assessments

Each unit includes a two-page assessment with 12 multiple-choice questions that test knowledge of key historical information. The last four or five questions include small black and white poster images and ask students to also demonstrate their ability to analyze poster content. Each assessment should take students between five and ten minutes to complete.

Slides and Print Copies

The slide shows, one for each unit, are available in PDFs for free. Download at www.projectlooksharp.org. Educators will need access to a computer and digital projector so that the class can identify key details in each slide. The lessons, histories and assessments are available in *PDF* form on the Project Look Sharp web site for downloading and printing. Teachers will want to print and review the lesson and make copies of student histories and assessments prior to instruction. Educators may purchase at cost a print copy of the entire teachers guide (including lessons, histories and assessments) and a CD with the slides from the Ithaca College Bookstore. Check the Project Look Sharp website for more information.