



Analysing Historical Sources

Historical Studies 4N3306
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Contradiction is the ability to compare two separate sources and find information that differs between them. Contradiction is when the things said by the two sources cannot both be true: one has to be wrong

For Example: If one source said that Germany won World War One and another source said that Britain won World War One, they clearly cannot both be right. One of the sources has to be wrong. This is a point of contradiction

Contradiction

When a second source provides the opposite information to the first, the second source is considered to contradict (or disagree with) with first

Finding contradiction between sources helps you to determine how accurate or reliable a particular source is

Read

Read the first source and summarise the key points of historical information they provide. Using quotes from the texts can help with this.



Read

Read the second source and summarise the key points of historical information they provide. Using quotes as well.



Compare

Compare the two different summaries that you wrote and then look for conflicting information in both lists.

Spotting Contradiction

Bias is when the creator's perspective is so strongly for or against something that the information in the source is clearly unbalanced

All sources contain some degree of bias, but it is not always possible to detect it

Bias can either be extremely positive or extremely negative

- If extremely positive, it is described as "pro-", or "in favour of"
- If extremely negative, it is described as "anti-", or "strongly against"
- If you cannot detect a bias, it is described as a "balanced" source

Bias

01

When describing people or events, the language is too positive and does not admit anything negative

02

When describing people or events, the language is too negative and does not admit anything positive

03

The source fails to mention very important information of which you are aware

04

The source provides clearly incorrect information

Spotting Bias

Perception

The way in which something is regarded, understood, or interpreted.

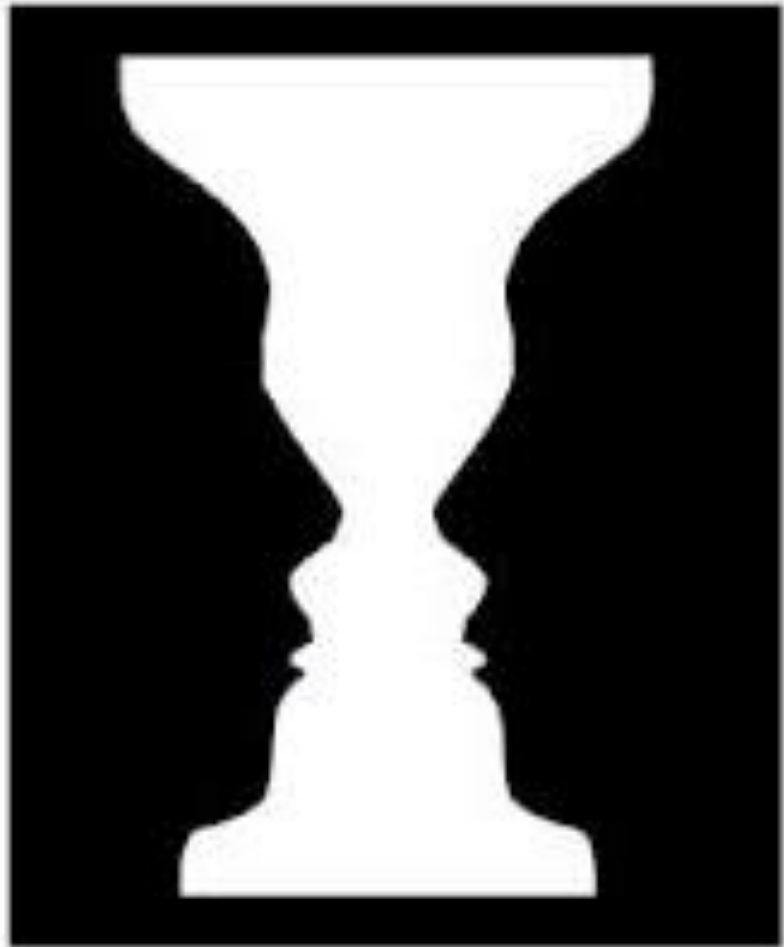


The Dress

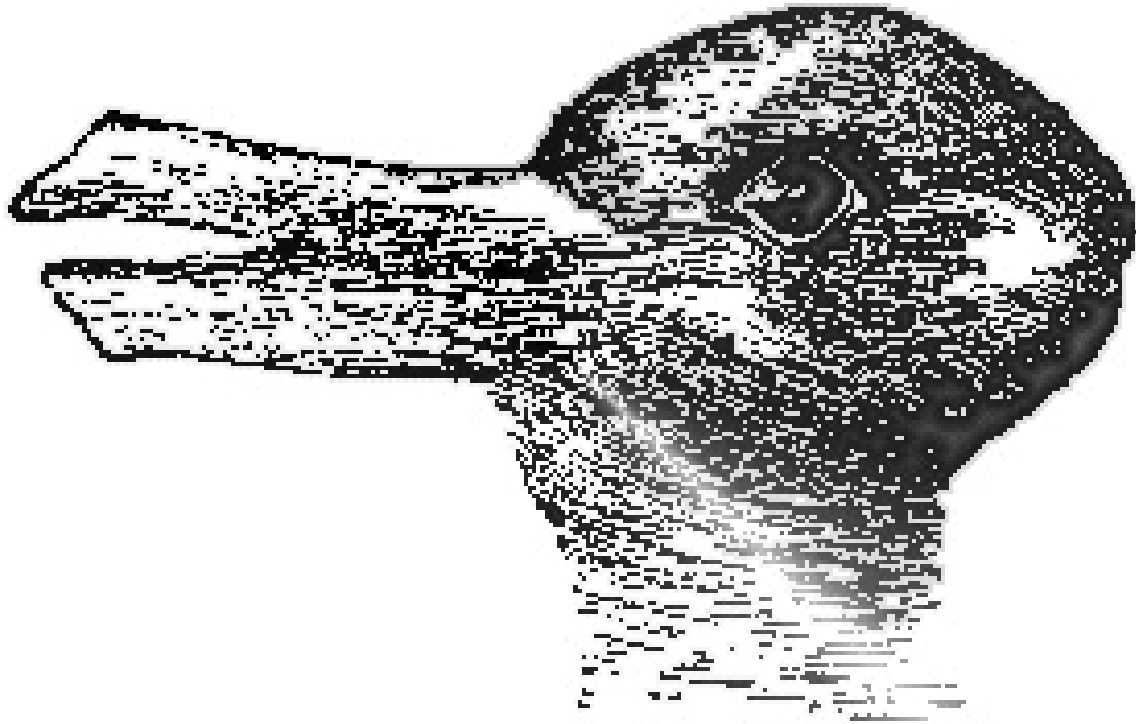
- The Dress was a picture that went viral on the internet in 2015
- People had different interpretations of the picture
- They either thought the dress was black and blue or gold and white



Young Woman or Old Woman?



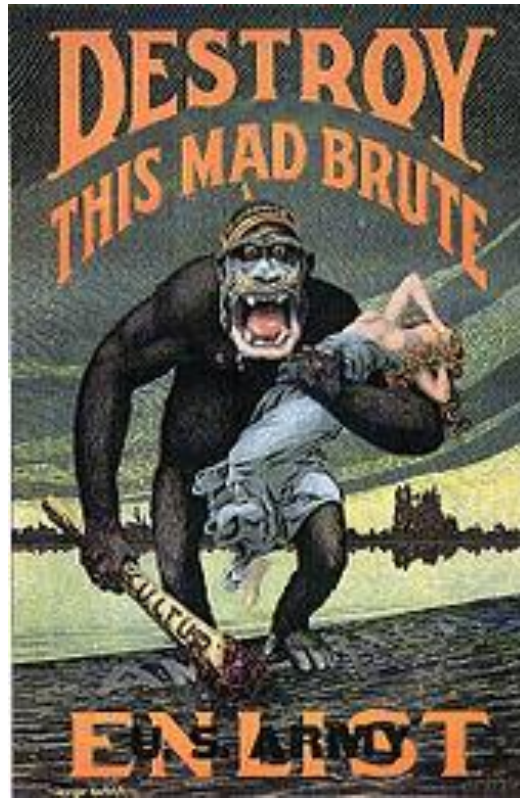
Two Faces or a
Candle Holder?



Rabbit or Duck?

Propaganda

Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view



Other Examples of Propaganda

A fact is a provable statement that can be shown to be true or false without any doubt

An opinion expresses a personal belief, idea, or feeling and is not provable

Fact vs Opinion