

Magazine Cover: Questions to Consider

Teachers: download this page of questions (or copy & paste) as a handout for students to consider as they choose a magazine cover for analysis and deconstruction.

- make a list of all of the images; how is the candidate represented; misrepresented?
- how is an appearance on a cover considered "free media"?
- who is the audience for each publication?
- who owns the periodical; does the owner have a political bias/viewpoint/perspective?
how would you know?
- is the cover complimentary to the candidate(s) or not?
- is it effective when the "cover line" is a question? Does it make you want to find the answer?
- how are font, color, composition, and layout used to appeal to readers?
- how do the words relate to the image and vice-versa?
- what does the candidate's body language and/or expression reveal?
- why do some covers use photos while others use illustrations or photo/illustrations?
what's the difference?
- if you were to recreate the cover, what would you do differently and why?
- who benefits from your purchase of a magazine/periodical?