ASSIGNMENT 1: OBJECT-BASED ANALYSIS

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We designed this assignment thinking the prompts would be given separately and in stages, so that students would focus on each stage before expanding on their thoughts on the next one. We imagine the prompt could be tailored to fit more specifically into a particular theme or discipline by limiting and specifying the type of object the students can work on.

1. Think about an object.

Pick an object: a building, an art work, an advertisement, a generic object, a physical space, and/or a space in a city.

Identify the relevant voices including but not restricted to the author, the observer, the user, and others that are key to the object you are using.

Explain the power structure (relations) and oppression(s) at work in this object.

2. Think about your sources.

List a related bibliography.

Go to your bibliography: list how many genders you are using, how many races, where the authors are from, and what the original languages of these texts are.

Go back to your initial bibliography and diversify your list.

What/how do the new sources you added help you explain your object differently?

3. Reimagine the object.

Reimagine an alternative to that object that pushes back against those structures of power and oppression, or create a new object and think what would be the best way of representing it, which media, image, model, installation, a poem, etc.