Dr. Seuss Political Cartoon Questions

1. Describe the scene in the cartoon.
2. Who is the figure in the center?
3. What symbol is on the creature?
4. Define appeasement, use a dictionary if necessary.
5. What is Dr. Seuss’ stance on appeasement according to this cartoon?
6. Make an argument that you would tell Dr. Seuss that is in favor of appeasement.
7. Draw a cartoon using recognizable symbols that is either in favor or against appeasement either in modern times or for WWII. You will not be graded on your artistic ability but your ability to clearly communicate your position to the reader through use of symbols, caption, dialogue, etc.
Answers

1. A human figure is in the center wearing an “appeaser” shirt offering one more lollipop to the multi-headed creature before he expects it to leave.
2. The figure represents English Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain who hoped to appease Hitler and avoid WWII; he also felt the US ought to enter the war.
3. Nazi swastikas
4. Giving an enemy what he asks for in hopes he will be satisfied and not ask for more; a strategy to avoid war by giving into the demands of a belligerent in order to end the conflict.
5. He is opposed to the policy as the scene makes it impossible to satisfy the monster.
6. Answers will vary but might include: Appeasement could potentially work, it is worth a try as is anything that might prevent a full fledged war; appeasement might save lives if the person is satisfied by receiving what he asked for; etc
7. Answers will vary but might include the symbols of the British flag, swastika, Uncle Sam, American flag, European map, etc; it is important that the message be obvious that the cartoon is in favor or against appeasement.