Mondays with MoMA
**Step 1**
Look closely

**Questions**
1. What materials do you think this artwork is made of?
2. How are these materials arranged?
3. What words or colors stand out? Why?

**Step 2**
Learn more

Hannah Höch was one of few female artists in the Berlin Dada group, artists who satirized and critiqued German culture and society after World War I. Hoch was an innovator who created collages and photomontages in which she appropriated, recombined, and layered images and text from mass media to critique popular culture, the failings of the government, and the socially constructed roles of women. She noted that “there are no limits to the materials available for pictorial collages—above all they can be found in photography, but also in writing and printed matter, even in waste products.”

Even though she was successful in the 1920s, many male peers did not accept her. She reflected, “Most of our male colleagues continued for a long while to look upon us as charming and gifted amateurs, denying us implicitly any real professional status.” Hoch was labeled a degenerate artist and banned from exhibiting her work during the Nazi Regime. She exhibited again after WWII but did not gain wide recognition for her work until the 1970s.

**Step 3**
Activity: Create a text collage

**Materials:** recycled papers (newspapers, magazines, junk mail, envelopes, etc), colored paper, scissors, glue

1. Cut the recycled papers into shapes of varying sizes. Focus on cutting from areas of text that are interesting to you or have words that stand out. You can also cut shapes from areas of solid color.
2. On a fresh sheet of paper, begin arranging your shapes. You can rotate, layer, and weave them so that the words and colors you want to emphasize are visible. Try to cover and fill the whole sheet with your shapes.
3. Keep arranging until you are happy with your composition. Glue it down if you like, or start fresh on a new collage.

**Step 4**
Share!

Share your collage with a classmate or family member. Or, you can email it to us at MoMA: schoolprograms@moma.org

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