

Shooting an Elephant

Read George Orwell's short story Shooting An Elephant and answer the following questions. Think about each question carefully and answer thoroughly to get full credit. Remember to use complete sentences.

Text: <http://www.classicshorts.com/stories/shootelp.html>

1. Who is the narrator and what is his position in the Burmese village?
2. How are Europeans, particularly the British, regarded by the native population? Why? Include some specific examples in your answer.
3. What is the narrator's basic internal conflict, even before the incident with the elephant occurs?
4. Why does the narrator not want to shoot the elephant? (3 reasons)
5. Why, in fact, does he kill the elephant? Answer in some detail.
6. What is the theme in Orwell's narrative? That is, what idea does he develop in regard to white colonialism?
7. Rewrite one section of Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant" from the point of view of one of the Burmese.