

Educational Resources

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SIMULATION

Preparing your Role – modified version

Student name: _____ **Role:** _____

Your role card tells you a little bit about the character you will be playing in the meeting. The card describes the ideas and beliefs that you will present at the committee meeting. You can also add your own opinions and details.

Before the meeting, you have to figure out the following :

- Does your character like this bill? If the answer is “yes,” think of how you will work to get the bill passed.
- Does your character think this bill is a bad idea? If so, think of how you will work to defeat the bill or to change the parts you don’t like.

Active reading

Start reading the bill again while holding a pencil. Think about how your character would react to the bill. While you are reading, record symbols in the margin after each clause to show your character’s likely feelings about the ideas:

- ++ Strongly support
- Strongly oppose
- * Find the idea interesting
- ? Find the idea confusing

After recording your character’s feelings about each section of the bill, try to stay in the role as you answer the following questions :

1. Should Canadians be able to continue with the activity addressed in the bill? Why or why not?

2. How important is this issue?

Not important at all

A little bit important

Very important

3. Are the penalties fair and reasonable?

Now fill in the chart below.

If you support the bill	If you are against the bill
What are the two most important clauses in the bill to keep and protect from someone changing them?	What are the two most important clauses in the bill to delete or change?

Now it's time to come up with one or two goals for the committee meeting, and come up with two strategies that might help your character achieve each goal. A sample answer is provided to help you understand this task.

Goal	Strategies to help achieve the goal
Sample goal: <i>Convince committee members to keep the penalty high.</i>	Sample strategies: 1. <i>Ask the minister an easy question such as, "Why is it important to have this penalty?" to provide the minister with an opportunity to convince committee members.</i> 2. <i>Think of problems that are likely to occur if the penalty is not kept at the current level.</i>