

Mock Government Lessons

Mr. Jones

1. Opinion Survey: Students complete an opinion survey designed to match their personal opinions up as closely as possible with factions of the time period we are studying.
2. Preparation Day:
 - a. Students assigned to teams according to opinion survey. The majority is the Government. The minority is the Opposition.
 - b. Teacher is Speaker pro-tem. Call to order. Nominations for Speaker. Voting. If the Speaker election leaves the Majority out of power (for a lack of majority), the student from the Opposition with the weakest minority opinion views will be moved to the Government team.
 - c. Speaker takes the Chair. Entertain motion to Caucus.
 - d. Government Caucus Work: Teacher shows problems facing the Government (those of the time period in question). During the Government caucus, the Government elects a Prime Minister and Whip from among them, then sets about drafting bills to address the problems. **Remember who your constituents are!**
 - e. Opposition Caucus Work: Elect a Shadow Prime Minister and Whip. Discuss your position on the issues (individuals may differ). Complete the Position paper pre-writing worksheet on any **one** of the problems facing the Government.
3. Debate Day: Speaker calls to order. Government presents its first bill. Follow rules for tournament debate. Debate as many bills as the time allows.
 - a. The Speaker will tally student questions. Students who do not get enough questions in or cannot participate much orally will earn their mark by turning the position paper into a short essay. Students who get enough oral participation will earn their mark from debate and be included on the team list on the grade sheet.