

# Educational Resources

## MODEL PARLIAMENT UNIT – ASSESSMENT: ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

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### Essay Assignment

Now that you have taken part in the Model Parliament Unit, it is important to think about your experience and relate it to some of the issues surrounding this important institution.

Your assignment is to write a short argumentative essay on one of the topics listed below.

- Your essay should be between 900 and 1,500 words (three to five word-processed pages of 300 words each).
- Include a clear thesis statement of your position.
- Provide three or four reasons to support your thesis, developing each in a separate paragraph.
- Support your arguments using relevant examples.
- Sum up your position on the topic.

### Essay Topics

Agree or disagree with one of the following topics. Explain and support your position.

In your answer, draw upon your experience in the Model Parliament Unit.

1. Canada's parliamentary system works slowly. This slowness, however, is necessary.
2. An MP's primary responsibility is to represent his or her constituency. The party system in Parliament, however, works against this.
3. The media provide Canadians with an accurate picture of what happens in Parliament.
4. An individual Member of Parliament can make a significant contribution to Canada through our parliamentary system.
5. Canadians are better served by a minority government.
6. Canada should have an elected Senate.
7. Parliament provides Canadians with a method of settling disputes without resorting to violence.
8. Committees are a wasteful and unnecessary step in the parliamentary process.
9. Through Parliament, Canadians have a real opportunity to influence the making of laws.
10. Parliamentary procedures are more formal than they need to be.
11. Come up with your own essay topic based on your experience in the Model Parliament Unit. Have the topic approved by your teacher before proceeding.