

Social Studies 11

Viewing Guide: Government in Canada: Citizenship in Action

Video 3. OUR NATIONAL PARLIAMENT; THE INSIDE STORY

1. What are the three parts of Parliament?
2. What is the Official Opposition? What is its role?
3. Where are the powers of government outlined?
4. What constitutes the Executive branch of our Federal government?
5. What makes up the Legislative Branch?
6. What is the Judicial branch?
7. Draw a quick sketch diagram of the seating arrangement in the House of Commons:
8. What do the House Leaders do?
9. What are backbenchers?
10. How is a Cabinet selected? What does it do?

11. What is a minority government?
12. What is meant by party solidarity?
13. What is a shadow cabinet?
14. What does a Member of Parliament do?
15. What are standing committees and what do they do?
16. What are the legislative committees?
17. What is Question Period?
18. What is the Speech from the Throne? Who writes it and who reads it? Where is it read and why isn't it read in the House of Commons?
19. What is the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod?
20. Who is the Speaker? Why does he accept this role only after a show of reluctance?

21. What is the mace and what does it symbolize?
22. Why is the Cabinet so large? (having over 40 members)
23. What is required of a person before they can become a Canadian citizen?
24. What is a Bill? How is it passed and made into a law?
25. What happens if the Senate decides to amend a Bill?
26. What is Royal Assent?