

## Assignment 3

**File Name: 9ssA3**

**Total Marks: /44 = %**

**Part A:** Use the information from the pages you have read in the textbook **and** course webpages to answer the following questions. Type the letter of the **best** answer in the space provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The constitution of Canada does all of the following **except**
- A. sets out the roles of the governor general and the three branches of government
  - B. sets out other important institutions such as the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
  - C. describes how governance and the economic system in Canada will function
  - D. describes how the three branches of government will work together to make decisions
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Which of the following statements about the monarch of Britain is **false**?
- A. The governor general is part of the executive and legislative branches of government.
  - B. The monarch plays an active role in Canada's government.
  - C. The king or queen of Britain is Canada's formal head of state.
  - D. The governor general represents the monarch in Canada.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which of the following branches of government is correctly matched with its function?
- A. Executive Branch – proposes laws and puts laws into action
  - B. Legislative Branch - applies and interprets laws
  - C. Judicial Branch – makes laws

Read the information in the chart below and answer the question that follows.

Executive Branch	Legislative Branch	Judicial Branch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prime Minister</li><li>• House of Commons</li><li>• Cabinet</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• House of Commons</li><li>• Senate</li><li>• Governor General</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supreme Court</li><li>• Provincial and Territorial Courts</li><li>• Cabinet</li></ul>

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which branch of government is identified correctly with its components in the chart above?

- A. Legislative Branch
- B. Judicial Branch
- C. Executive Branch

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Which of the following is **not** one of the steps to becoming prime minister in Canada?

- A. Be elected as the leader of a political party
- B. Be elected as a member of parliament (MP)
- C. Be the leader of the party that wins the most seats in the House of Commons
- D. Be the leader of the party that wins the majority of the seats in the House of Commons

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Which of the following statements about the cabinet is **false**?

- A. Most of the ideas that become laws are proposed by the cabinet
- B. Voters determine which portfolio cabinet ministers will be assigned.
- C. Members of the cabinet are chosen and appointed by the prime minister.
- D. The prime minister and cabinet run the day-to-day business of government.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. What is the purpose of a political party?

- A. To construct legislation that is in the best interests of all Canadians
- B. To initiate debate and to question the policies and actions of the government
- C. To put forth candidates in elections and seek to form the government
- D. To represent the various regions of Canada and to protect the interests of minority groups

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which of the following statements about the House of Commons is **false**?
- A. The House of Commons is the major law-making body in Canada's federal government.
  - B. Members of the House of Commons debate, study, and vote on bills proposed for Canada.
  - C. Each Member of Parliament (MP) represents one electoral district or riding.
  - D. Representation in the House of Commons is determined by region.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. What is the role of the opposition in the House of Commons?
- A. To get as many members of the party in the cabinet as possible
  - B. To represent the interests and rights of Canada's regions and various minority groups
  - C. To act as a watchdog and question the governing party about its actions and decisions
  - D. To propose most bills that will become law in Canada
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. What is necessary for a political party to receive a majority in the House of Commons?
- A. The party wins more than half of the seats in the House of Commons.
  - B. The party wins fewer than half of the seats in the House of Commons.
  - C. The party must have the support of the prime minister and the cabinet.
  - D. The party's leader wins the most seats in his or her riding.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The party with the second largest number of seats in the House of Commons is called the
- A. majority party
  - B. party in power
  - C. official opposition party
  - D. governing party

- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Why might having a *minority government* be challenging when passing legislation?
- A. The minority government will not act in the best interest of all Canadians.
  - B. The government will be able to pass almost all bills introduced in the House of Commons.
  - C. The other political parties in the House will not question or debate the government's proposed bills.
  - D. The government will need to seek support from members of other parties.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. What is the key difference between the members of the House of Commons (MPs) and the members of the Senate?
- A. MPs are not able to propose laws that create or spend taxes; Senators are allowed to propose laws of this kind.
  - B. MPs are elected to their positions by voters; Senators are appointed to their positions by the prime minister.
  - C. Senators debate, study, and vote on bills but MPs do not perform these duties.
  - D. There are no differences between MPs and Senators.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Which of the following statements about the Senate is **false**?
- A. The Senate provides "sober second thought" to all proposed legislation.
  - B. The Senate represents the interests and rights of Canada's regions and minorities.
  - C. The Senate needs to pass legislation for it to become law in Canada.
  - D. The Senate often uses its power to reject bills from the House of Commons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The voting area represented by a Member of Parliament (MP) is called a
- A. riding
  - B. constituent
  - C. region
  - D. party

## Part B:

1. a. Choose **three** political parties from the links you investigated in Activity 2. Complete the chart below by summarizing, in point-form, the party's platform on each topic in the chart. (5 marks)

	Party 1 ____	Party 2 ____	Party 3 ____
<b>Economy</b>			
<b>Environment</b>			
<b>Health care</b>			
<b>Education</b>			

- b. Imagine that the federal government has just announced that an election will be held and you are of voting age. You must make a decision about which party meets your needs and the needs of your community best. **Use the information in the chart you completed above to help you make your decision.** (10 marks)

Write a journal entry of **two or three** paragraphs in which you

- identify which political party you would vote for in this upcoming election
- explain why you have chosen this political party
- explain **four** reasons this political party is your choice

Be sure to identify the **areas of your chosen party's platform that you support** and explain **why these items/issues are important to you and how they impact your quality of life.**

Read the scoring criteria below to ensure your understanding of how this part of your assignment will be evaluated.

Type your response in the space provided.

**Scoring Criteria:** (mark x2 = 10 marks)

	<i>You have ...</i>
<b>5 Excellent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided thoughtful ideas and thorough explanations</li><li>• provided specific, relevant, and accurate support for your ideas</li><li>• demonstrated effective connections between your position and the research</li><li>• written clearly, accurately, and effectively with well-organized ideas</li></ul>
<b>4 Proficient</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided meaningful ideas and appropriate explanations</li><li>• provided relevant and appropriate support for your ideas</li><li>• demonstrated clear connections between your position and the research</li><li>• written in an organized way with effective vocabulary and few errors</li></ul>
<b>3 Satisfactory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided straightforward ideas and general explanations</li><li>• provided general and adequate support for your ideas</li><li>• demonstrated some connections between your position and the research</li><li>• written satisfactorily (Minor errors do not interfere with the message.)</li></ul>
<b>2 Limited</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided limited ideas with simplistic or unrelated explanations</li><li>• provided obvious, simplistic and/or irrelevant support for your ideas</li><li>• demonstrated few connections between your position and the research</li><li>• written unclearly with inappropriate vocabulary (Major errors interfere with the message.)</li></ul>
<b>1 Poor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• provided few or no ideas or explanations</li><li>• provided superficial, irrelevant, or incomplete support for your ideas</li><li>• demonstrated no connections between your position and the research</li><li>• written unclearly with disorganized ideas (Many errors interfere with the message.)</li></ul>

**Part C:** Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Type your responses in the space provided.

Retrieve the notes you have recorded about Members of Parliament and Senators in Activity 3 of this workbook. Answer the following questions.

1. Identify **three** roles of Members of Parliament that you think are important. Choose **one** of these roles and explain why it is the most important role of MPs. (5 marks)

- Identify **three** roles of Senators that you think are important. Choose **one** of these roles and explain why it is the most important role of senators. (5 marks)
- Why is the Senate considered to be the house of “sober second thought”? How is this beneficial in the formation of new legislation? (2 marks)
- Review the definition of *accountable* in Activity 3. Which group of representatives, Members of Parliament (MPs) or Senators, are most accountable to Canadians? Why is this so? (2 marks)



**Total Assignment: /44 = %**

**Submit your completed assignment for marking.**