

Video 1: What is Queensland Parliament?

Teacher Support Sheet

Overview

The 'What is Queensland Parliament?' video introduces the basic features and functions of Queensland Parliament.

Key vocabulary

- Budget
- Constitution
- Grievance
- Legislature
- Minister
- Scrutiny
- Unicameral



Definitions and more glossary terms available in the Quizlet vocabulary list.

Key Topics

- Origins of Parliament
- Composition of Parliament
- The 6 functions of Parliament:
 1. Representation
 2. Forming a government
 3. Scrutiny
 4. Providing a forum for debate and grievance
 5. Budget and supply
 6. Making or changing laws

Teaching Resources



What is Queensland Parliament?

Cloze passage - print worksheet



6 Functions of Parliament

*Interactive infographic**



Seating Plan - Key Roles in Queensland Parliament

Colour match the key roles



Seating Plan - Key Roles in Queensland Parliament

*Interactive information sheet**



Seating Plan - Key Roles in Queensland Parliament

Print information sheet



Quizlet - What is Parliament?

Vocabulary list



Characteristics of a State MP

*Interactive worksheet**



Election Promises

*Interactive worksheet**

**Please note - interactive worksheets should be downloaded and saved to a desktop for optimal use. Interactive features are not compatible on mobile devices.*



Further Material

Queensland Parliament worksheet – [The Workings of Parliament](#)

Queensland Parliament factsheet – [Celebrating 150 years in 2010](#)

Queensland Parliament factsheet – [Queensland Electoral and Parliamentary history: Key Dates and Events](#)



Ideas for Learning Activities

Suggested activities	AC code	AC content descriptor
<p>Majority or Minority? Explore the concepts of majority, minority governments using the seating plan worksheets. Students colour code copy of the blank seating plan to illustrate a majority and minority in the Legislative Assembly – this could be done electronically or in hardcopy.</p>	ACHCK075	The role of political parties and independent representatives in Australia’s system of government, including the formation of governments
<p>Who represents you? Students use the Queensland Parliament Website to explore their current and past MPs Use the Member information webpage to find out more about students’ local Member.</p>		
<p>How are laws made? Watch footage of Parliament in Action. Archived broadcasts are available by accessing the Record of Proceedings for sitting dates (from 14 February 2011). Click on the camera icon in the left-hand margin throughout the electronic document to watch proceedings of Parliament from that point onward. After viewing students could write speeches that to support or oppose or suggested changes to a bill being addressed in the House.</p>	ACHASSK143	The key institutions of Australia’s democratic system of government and how it is based on the Westminster system
	ACHCK063	How laws are made in Australia through parliaments (statutory law) and through the courts (common law)
<p>Make a law Have your class identify an issue of state government responsibility that is important for them. Create a mock bill to debate in a classroom Parliament. Click here for a lesson plan on running a Legislative process role play. Don’t forget to appoint class members into key functional roles of the Parliament such as the Speaker and Sergeant-in-Arms.</p>	ACHASSK146	Where ideas for new laws can come from and how they become law
<p>Who do you think should represent you? Ask students to consider the qualities/skills of the perfect representative for them. Construct a poster or job ad for that person. Explore this with the Characteristics of a MP resource. What should your students consider? What other information might come into play when considering a good candidate? Extend this to think of the perfect representative for their grandmother, their neighbour, etc. Provide geographic and social aspects of an electorate – real or made up – what might be the concerns of other people in that that area?</p>	ACHASSK145	The responsibilities of electors and representatives in Australia’s democracy
<p>Election Promises? Have students imagine they are running as a candidate at the next state election. Individually or as a group, work through some of the key considerations they would need to address. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are you representing? <p>Think about different groups or communities in the electorate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are your election promises, useful for all of your constituents? • What laws would need to change? • Do these promises align with your political party policy? • How are you going to pay for the election promises? 	ACHASSK146	Where ideas for new laws can come from and how they become law.
	QCAA Legal Studies Unit 1: Law, governance and change Topic 1: Governance in Australia	Accountability of government, e.g. The Commission of Inquiry into Possible Illegal Activities and Associated Police Misconduct (Fitzgerald Inquiry 1987–1989).
<p>“Parler” means to speak Analyse different ways of speaking used in Parliament, as well as how the Members speak across various forums (e.g. to the media, addressing a town hall, canvassing on the street) to identify adversarial, didactic, rhetorical, and persuasive speech forms.</p>	ACELY1732	Analyse and evaluate the ways that text structures and language features vary according to the purpose of the text and the ways that referenced sources add authority to a text