



LESSON
PLANS

CITIZENSHIP CHALLENGE

Citizenship Challenge

MATERIAL COVERED

- Pages 24-27 of the *Discover Canada* guide

LESSON PLANS

Modern Canada

Pre-reading and Vocabulary Activities

1 PREDICTION ACTIVITY

In a class discussion, brainstorm about the ideas, policies, events, and people that have shaped modern Canada. Discuss how they have made a meaningful contribution to Canada as a prosperous, peaceful, and diverse society.

2 ANTICIPATION GUIDE

Present the following statements on a projector or give students a copy; ask them to reflect on whether they agree, disagree or are neutral in regards to the statements. Engage the class in a discussion about students' responses, being careful to neither affirm nor deny students' positions. After reading the text, discuss how students' stances were either strengthened or challenged as a result of how the themes or concepts were approached in the text.

Junior:

- Most Canadians have a job, get enough to eat and are healthy.
- Having a multicultural country makes Canadians' lives better.
- Scientific methods and technology invented by Canadians have changed the world.
- All Canadians need to work together for a strong future.

Senior:

- Canadians enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living - maintained by the hard work of Canadians and by trade with other nations.
- Diversity enriches Canadians' lives, particularly in our cities.
- Canadian advances in science and technology are world renowned and have changed the way the world communicates and does business.
- The prosperity and diversity of our country depend on all Canadians working together to face challenges of the future.

Other resources to use with these activities:

The Canadian Encyclopedia
www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com

Passages Canada
www.passagescanada.com

The Heritage Minutes
www.historicacanada.ca/content/videos

Historica Canada
www.historicacanada.ca



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During Reading Activities

1 QUESTION AND ANSWER WORKSHEETS

These worksheets are designed for either a junior level (fill in the blank, simple recall, short answer) or a senior level (more synthesis, analysis questions). All answers are based on the *Discover Canada* reading and the students' own opinions.

2 PRESENTATION ACTIVITIES

Individually or in pairs, have students create an oral presentation on a particular political, economic, social, cultural, or scientific development in Canada's modern history. Using **The Canadian Encyclopedia** as a reference, students will include information on the following: i) origin ii) evolution iii) significance in shaping modern Canada. As a class, discuss the people, ideas, policies, and developments that have shaped modern Canada.

Post-reading Activities

1 WRITING TASKS

Complete one of the following tasks, incorporating facts, concepts, and themes from the "Modern Canada" chapter in the guide. For additional information, consult **The Canadian Encyclopedia**.

- A)** Have students write an opinion piece (e.g. editorial, letter to the editor, blog post or persuasive essay) about one of the following areas of development and how it has been an essential part of modern Canada: trade & economic growth; international roles; equality & social programs; bilingualism & multiculturalism; arts & culture; science & technology. Students must include at least one example of a person, event, or policy related to the areas they have chosen.
- B)** Either together or independently, have students write a proposal to the municipal, provincial, or federal government suggesting a new government initiative related to one of the following areas of development: trade & economic growth; international roles; equality & social programs; bilingualism & multiculturalism; arts & culture; science & technology. They must provide a clear, short and focused description of a project idea, its objectives, and how it would contribute to Canadian society. Students can then present their idea to the class or to a guest panel of 'government representatives', such as local MPs.

2 ONE MINUTE PRESENTATION/VIDEO

In groups, have students create a one-minute video, modeled after the **Heritage Minutes**, on a person, group, development, or policy that has shaped modern Canada. Have the students work together to plan the idea, to write the script and to sketch the story board. Students can film the videos, or perform the skits to the class. The video should capture a particular topic that relates to the "Modern Canada" section of the guide.

3 CANADA IN 2020 PANEL DISCUSSION (FOR SENIOR STUDENTS, BUT CAN BE ADAPTED FOR JUNIORS)

Divide the class in five groups. Students are to take on the roles of leading young thinkers who have been asked to identify the issues, events, and developments that will transform Canada by 2020. Their task is to examine several key questions about how Canada's recent past has prepared it for the challenges of the future. Have each group formulate their own argument and prepare a short position paper or a multimedia presentation (e.g. PowerPoint, a wiki, a video) on one of the questions below. Hold a panel discussion during which each group presents their arguments and responds to questions from the class.

- i. How have modern Canadian ideas, policies, and events prepared us for the future?
- ii. What issues have we not yet resolved, and what new challenges lie ahead?
- iii. How can we maintain or improve our balance of peace, prosperity, and diversity?
- iv. What can individual Canadians do to make a meaningful contribution to our society?
- v. How can we play a meaningful role in the world of the 21st century?

Alternatively, groups can consider a specific issue that is at the center of Canadian politics, such as education, healthcare, Aboriginal issues, and inequality or another current event. Continue the rest of the activity as above.

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