

Model Senate: Bill Annotation and Speech Assignment

Part I: In Groups of 4 - Complete the following steps as a group. Your group will not need consensus on each, save number 3.

1. Individual: In each preamble, circle what you think is the most single powerful phrase
2. Individual: By each "Section," place a:
 - + for agree
 - for disagree
 - O for mixed
 - ? for anything you don't understand or isn't clear.
 - "R" for any revision (mistake, typo, etc) that you feel should be made on the bill.
 - * for the most reasonable, realistic, and thoughtful Section
3. Group: At the top of each bill, write one sentence describing how this resolution proposes to fix each problem. *****Your group must come to consensus on this point.**
4. Individual: At the bottom of the resolution, write what Section you would like to amend and how you would like to amend it.
5. Individual/Group: When you have finished steps 1 – 4, rank the Sections from your most favorite to your least with a number on top of each.
6. Discuss the following in your groups and write, down your consensus:

What are the 3 most notable policies in this bill?	What are the 3 most notable policies in this bill?
Environment and Public Works Bill 1 2 3	Judiciary Committee Bill 1 2 3

Part II: On your own - For this exhibition, each committee member will deliver a well-developed and rehearsed speech during the first Senate Floor session, in committee, or during Senate Floor Session # 2. Your task is to write a powerful introductory 2-3-minute speech (between 300-400 words) **from the perspective of your senator** where you argue for or against a specific bill.

Structure:

- Write a thesis statement with a concessive that recognizes potential criticisms from opponents but asserts the strength of your own thinking
- Write at least two TEA paragraphs supporting your thesis
- At least one paragraph must refer to at least one specific aspect of the bill by section # and line # and explain why you support/do not support this specific section. Strong speeches will use specific evidence here. If you are speaking against, it may help you be more specific in your critique, suggest how you'd like to change this section and what kind of an amendment you'd like to offer and your reasoning.
- Write a conclusion that makes your point strongly and leaves your audience with something to remember

Due: In my email box by 8:15 a.m. on Thursday morning.

Work Schedule and Homework:

We will work on the speeches for the second half of class today. Your goal should be to have a detailed outline of your speech by the beginning of Monday's class. This will allow you to finish a draft and get some feedback from me and fellow students.

Assessment: (Each category will be graded out of 20 points. Total of 100 points of Summative Assessment)

- 1) Thesis – Is your thesis clear and complex enough to demonstrate substantive grasp of the issues at hand? Do you use a concessive?
- 2) Organization & Logic – Do you fully explain your thesis and the reasons for its validity. Does your speech have a logical flow that holds the attention of the audience?
- 3) Quality of evidence – Is the evidence you use detailed, specific, and credible?
- 4) Accuracy – Is it plausible that your specific senator would deliver this speech?
- 5) Mechanics – Is your paper free of obvious errors, use complete sentences, proper syntax, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization? Do you use the active voice? Is it your tone professional?