

Setting the Agenda

Background Lesson 2: Organization of the Parliamentary Day

Student Activity Sheet

List of Events in a Parliamentary Day

Here is a list of events that might take place on a typical Tuesday or Thursday in Parliament. Each one of these events corresponds to one complete section of the unit. The events in italics are not included in this unit.

Time	House of Commons	Senate	Outside of Both Houses
	Note: This is the schedule for a typical Tuesday or Thursday when the House of Commons is sitting.	Note: The Senate sits Mondays to Thursdays between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm, and on Fridays between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. Depending on the orders to be discussed, it may sit until midnight Monday to Thursday.	Caucus Meeting Senate and House of Commons
	Opening Exercises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bells • Parade • Prayers 	Opening Exercises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bells • Parade • Prayers 	
10:00 am	Routine Proceedings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabling of Documents • Introduction of Government Bills • Statements by Ministers • Presenting Reports from Inter- parliamentary delegations 	Senators' Statements 15 minutes Senators make statements on matters of importance to them (three minutes each)	Committee Meetings (Morning) Senate and House of Commons: daily



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenting Reports from Standing or Special Committees Introduction of Private Members' Bills Motions Presentation of Petitions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Reading of Senate Public Bills Motions <p>Questions on Order Paper</p>	
Until 2:00 pm	<p>Government Orders</p> <p>From immediately following Routine Proceedings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of items of business that the Government calls Debate on motions or bills (e.g., second and third reading of bills) 	<p>Routine Proceedings</p> <p>30 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tabling of Documents Presenting Reports from Committees Government Notices of Motion Introduction of Government Bills Introduction of Senate Public Bills (Private Senators' Bills) First Reading of Commons Public Bills Reading of Petitions for Private Bills Introduction of Private Bills Tabling of Reports from Inter-parliamentary Delegations Notices of Motion Notices of Inquiries Presentation of Petitions 	
2:00 - 2:15 pm	<p>MPs' Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPs make statements on matters of importance to them (one minute each) 	<p>Question Period</p> <p>30 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senators of the Opposition and Government 	<p>Committee Meetings</p> <p>(Afternoon)</p> <p>Senate and House of</p>



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		parties ask questions of the Government or to the chair of a committee, if it is a question relating to the activities of the committee	Commons: daily
2:15 - 3:00 pm	Oral Questions ("Question Period") <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPs ask questions of the Government, or of committee chairs, if about committee business 	Orders of the Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Business Other Business 	
3:00 - 5:30 pm	Government Orders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Resuming consideration of items of business that the Government calls</i> <i>Debate on motions or bills</i> 	Inquiries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Senators call the attention of the Senate to matters of particular interest or importance</i> Motions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Senators present motions for debate</i> 	
5:30 - 6:30 pm	Private Members' Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Private MPs present bills and motions for debate</i> 		
6:30 - 7:00 pm	Adjournment Proceedings <p>MPs who did not receive a satisfactory response to a question posed during Oral Questions ask in writing to have it raised again at this time. When chosen, they may expand on their original question and then a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary responds.</p>		

