

## **Social Studies - Chapter 5: Government and the Constitution**

### **Directions:**

*Response Journal: After reading pages 64-81, in your reading response journal for Social Studies, write a one page double spaced response to one of the following questions in the first person:*

1. You are a judge. You must decide whether to abolish (look it up!) the Senate. You listen to both sides of the argument:
  - a. Some people think the Senate is undemocratic. They feel this way because Senators are not elected; the Prime Minister and his Cabinet choose them, so Senators cannot claim to speak for anyone but themselves. They think that MP's in the House of Commons should make all the Federal government's decisions and laws for Canadians.
  - b. Others think the Senate serves an important role. They argue that because it is not elected, it is not easily forced into making popular decisions by voters or by media reports (newspapers, tv, radio), instead, it can make the best decision for all Canadians.

Come up with a decision on whether the Senate should be abolished or not and give your reasons. Your decision should be one paragraph with five or more sentences. The topic-sentence should be your decision. Three (or more) detail sentences should give three reasons to back up and explain your decision (your "feelings" are not important). The clincher should re-state your topic-sentence in different words.

2. Canada's Constitution contains the **Charter of Rights and Freedoms**. In the C or R & F's there is a section called Equality Rights. What does equality mean in this context? What does the CRF mean when it says: "Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination..." What if you are Landed Immigrant: should you have the same rights as a Canadian Citizen?