

Civic Studies 11

Unit Vocabulary Work

Overview

Civic Studies 11 is a provincially examinable course. This means you will have to remember large amounts of facts & information at the end of the semester in order to do well on the exam. One of the most proven ways of doing this well is to create – *physically write-out* – a list of important words. What's been proven to work even better is to also think up a fun or silly way to remember it, and then write or draw it down beside the initial definition.

So, because I like seeing my students do really well, and because I like things that are proven to work, my CS11 students are going to do this for the important words of this course. Trust me, I've had many, many, many students thank me for this.

What You Need to Do

Near the end of every unit of study, you will be expected to write out the definitions *plus* your memory trick for all of the words I give to you in this packet. The words must be *written out!!! No typing!!!* Just so you know: Writing words down on paper puts information into your long-term memory better than anything else for two-thirds of the human population.

As well, you can only use *one side of one page* (there's research on the benefits of this too). You cannot write on both sides of one page; marks will be deducted from your total if you do.

Here's an example of a word, its definition, and a memory trick.

Real Definition

Fascism: A system of government marked by centralization of authority under a dictator, stringent socioeconomic controls, suppression of the opposition through terror and censorship, and typically a policy of belligerent nationalism and racism.

Memory Trick

Fasc = Fash = I'll "bash" your head in if you don't listen to me.



I Repeat: For each word you must:

1. Write out its definition (as it relates to Civic Studies 11)
2. Your own memory trick for it, written or illustrated. Whatever it is, it must help you remember what it means. It can be a picture, a silly sentence, a reference to something a classmate or even I said in class, or anything helpful.

Evaluation

If your vocabulary section is done perfectly, you will earn 95% and it will count as a Major Task. For every word not done adequately (e.g. simple re-wordings), you will lose its corresponding percent. For example, if the unit list had 20 words and you did not do 2 words adequately (2 of 20 is 10%), you would get 90% (because you lost 10% from the 100% you started out with).

If you get 95% on the unit vocab list *and* score higher on the unit exam... I will "up" your vocab score to whatever you got on the exam. For example, you get 95% on the vocab (which is the maximum) and you get 99% on the exam... I would go back and give you 99% on your vocab.