

TeenPact One Day State Class:

First Time Student Pre-Class Homework (ages 8-12)

This homework is intended to enhance students' ability to engage in the One Day class, however it will not be graded.

Note: Students attending a class in **Nebraska** should complete the homework packets found [here](#). DO NOT complete the homework below if you are signing up for a Nebraska class.

1 Memorize 1 Timothy 2:1-3 using a Bible translation of your choice.

- **Be sure to bring your Bible to class!**
- *Purpose: to develop a biblical worldview of citizenship.*



- Tip: Find creative ways to memorize these verses— ie. using 3x5 cards as flash cards.

2 Write a one page bill on an issue (serious or fun!) that is worthy of debate. (Our Sample Bill below shows a format to use.)

- Bring two copies of your bill: one to turn in and one to keep for your own use during the class.
- Please choose topics that are respectful and are appropriate for the age and environment of the class.
- *Purpose: to be presented before the TeenPact Legislature.*



- Tip: Parents, it's all right for you to assist your child with this process. Help them write about the topic of their choice, something that an 8-12 year old would find interesting to talk about. Have fun with it!

3 Complete the Campaign Fact Sheet (below) to learn more about the election process and the people involved in electing a candidate.

- Bring one copy of your Campaign Fact Sheet to refer to during class.
- *Purpose: to learn more about the campaign process.*



- Tip: Talk with your parents about the different campaigns going on right now!

OPTIONAL: The following assignments will give students a better understanding of the One Day class, however are not required.

4 Read chapters 2, 6 & 13 of Tim Echols' book, *Real Citizenship*.

- These chapters can be read online for free. You can also purchase the entire book during the registration process or at teenpact.com/store for only \$10.00.
- [Real Citizenship Book Chapter 2](#)
- [Real Citizenship Book Chapter 6](#)
- [Real Citizenship Book Chapter 13](#)

Purpose: to understand the necessity of being involved in your community.



- Tip: Parents: Try reading this out loud to your children or have them read it out loud to you. Make it interesting by helping them understand what the author is talking about.

5 With your parent's help, write an encouraging letter to both your state senator and state representative and let them know you are praying for them (see sample letter below).

- Tell them that you will be coming to the Capitol – maybe they would like to meet you after the class ends at 4 p.m.!
- Mail the letters at least 2 weeks before the class to ensure that they arrive in time.
- Need to know where to send the letters? Go to [Project Vote Smart](#) and search for your legislators.
- *Purpose: to experience how easy it is to communicate with your leaders.*



- Tip: Be respectful and don't forget to address them with their proper titles.
- Tip: Thank them for serving your state in this capacity, and tell them about one issue or idea that you think is important to your state.

Note to Parents:

All student bills will be heard during "first reads" in the mock legislature and assigned to committees for further discussion. Due to time constraints, we are not always able to further debate all bills in the general assembly. Thank you for your understanding.



Sample bill

This is a standard format for making your bill for TeenPact Legislature. Each state legislature has their own design for their bills. Take a look at a bill from your state to check out the similarities and differences.

Author
Bill number

By: John Doe
House Bill # _____

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title To reduce the speed of motorist traveling the highways of this state.

Reasons you think this bill is important. **PURPOSE:** To reduce the number of deaths and severe injuries, caused by traffic accidents.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF (your state's name):

The actual specific law that you want to pass with all the details spelled out. This will include definitions, plan of action and details of enforcement.

Section 1. For the purpose of this act, "motorist" shall mean any person controlling a motorized vehicle used for the purpose of moving persons or freight on the highways of this state.

Section 2. It is unlawful for a motorist to travel at a speed of more than 65 miles per hour on an interstate or more than 55 miles per hour on any other highway in this state.

Section 3. Any person who violates this act shall be subject to a fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation.

Section 4. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Exactly when your bill will take effect if passed.

Section 5. This act shall become effective 30 days after approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.



Campaign Fact Sheet

Name: _____

- 1) With your parent's help, research and define the following terms:
 - a) Primary election: _____
 - b) General election: _____
- 2) When is your state's primary election? _____
- 3) When is the general election? _____
- 4) What is a political party, and what are the two main political parties in the United States? _____

- 5) A political campaign takes a lot of people to make it successful. Look up the following terms and talk with your parent about what these jobs are like. Write short explanations of these roles in your own words:
 - a) Candidate: _____
 - b) Campaign manager: _____
 - c) Speechwriter: _____
 - d) Grassroots coordinator: _____
 - e) Campaign volunteer: _____
- 6) If you were to work on a campaign, which job would you choose? Why? _____



Sample letter to your senator or representative

123 My Street
Small Town, State 11233

Senator Fred Dyson
100 State Capitol Avenue, Room 225
Capital City, State 22311

*Always use the correct title (Representative,
Senator, or Delegate) when writing to your
legislators!*

Dear Senator Dyson,

In the body of your letter, make sure that you:

- Thank your legislator for his service to your community and state.*
- Tell him that you are praying for him.*
- Tell him about TeenPact and what you will be learning about during the class.*

Other ideas include:

- Respectfully write about an issue that relates to your state.*
- Ask if you can stop by your legislator's office either before TeenPact begins or after it ends on Friday.*

Sincerely,

Jane Doe