

Speaking

Set 1 Student 1

Preparation – 15 minutes

Presentation and questions – 10 minutes

Task 1

Famous Documents of the English-speaking World

1. Monologue: Time 3 – 4 minutes

At the English Club meeting you are to present information concerning one of the most famous documents, that has changed the course of history in the English-speaking world and has a great international impact. As ‘an expert’ present the key points of **Set 1: *The Magna Carta*** to your fellow students, who are involved in the project ‘**Famous Documents of the English-speaking World**’. Use the fact file to speak about the document’s:

Historical Background	Worldwide Impact
Main Ideas	Criticism

Explain why the document can be regarded as a cornerstone and needs to be studied by those who learn English.

2. Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes.

Answer 2 QUESTIONS from your partner – ‘a fellow student’, who wants to get ADDITIONAL INFORMATION that you have not mentioned in your presentation on the Document. Make sure your answer is based on the information from the fact file. If there is NO relevant information in the fact file, base your answer on your best guess.

You can make notes during the preparation time, but YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ them during the presentation.

Task 2

1. Listen to the presentation of your partner (**Set 2: *The Declaration of Independence***).

2. Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes

Ask 2 QUESTIONS about the Document to get ADDITIONAL INFORMATION not mentioned in the presentation. Yes/No questions and questions about the opinion of your partner are NOT accepted.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE RECORDED

Magna Carta

<p>Historical Background</p>	<p>The Magna Carta, signed by King John in 1215 under civil war threat, led to the rule of the constitutional law in the English-speaking world. Tyrannical rule caused English barons' resentment as the king demanded too much money in taxes. After disastrous war in France, the barons marched against the king and captured London. The document was agreed upon and sealed by the king at Runnymede (beside the River Thames). The charter was a compromise, which contained important clauses to bring about reforms in judicial and local administration.</p>
<p>Main ideas</p>	<p>The Magna Carta provided the foundation for individual rights in Anglo-American jurisprudence. The document has 63 clauses, including provisions for limiting royal taxes, reforming laws and judicial procedures. The charter gave the barons the right to declare war on the king if he did not follow its provisions. It stated that people could not be punished for crimes unless they were lawfully convicted. It provided certain guarantees for the people as a whole. The Magna Carta formulates the following human rights and principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the right of the church to be free from governmental interference, 2. the rights of all free citizens to own, inherit property and be protected from excessive taxes, 3. the right of widows with inherited property to choose not to remarry, 4. principles of due process and equality before the law, 5. provisions forbidding bribery and official misconduct.
<p>Worldwide Impact</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An important legal document in the development of modern democracy - a crucial turning point to establish freedom, a symbol in the battle against oppression. 2. A significant document for the people of the 1200s proved to be even more important to subsequent generations. 3. The first step in establishing England's constitution. Later many other countries used the principles of the Magna Carta in their constitutions. 4. The Magna Carta shaped the wording of the fundamental laws of England's colonies in North America. The basic rights later embodied in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights echo the charter.
<p>Criticism</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Magna Carta did not put an end to royal tyranny. Kings continued to make war for their own glory rather than for the public good. Taxes continued to rise. 2. The Magna Carta corrected King John's abuses of power against the barons, Church officials, merchants and other "free men" who together made up about 25% of England's population, though it virtually ignored the remaining 75% of the population. 3. This document did not merely reflect social divisions, it actively re-enforced them. It discriminated against unfree peasants and women, and gave less to people than they hoped for.

Speaking

Set 2 Student 2

Preparation – 15 minutes

Presentation and questions – 10 minutes

Task 1

Famous Documents of the English-speaking World

1. **Listen** to the presentation of your partner (**Set 1: *The Magna Carta***).
2. **Questions/ Answers: Time: 2 - 3 minutes**

Ask 2 QUESTIONS about the document to get **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** not mentioned in the presentation. Yes/No questions and questions about the opinion of your partner are **NOT** accepted.

Task 2

1. **Monologue: Time 3 – 4 minutes**

At the English Club meeting you are to present information concerning one of the most famous documents, that has changed the course of history in the English-speaking world and has a great international impact. As ‘an expert’ present the key points of **Set 2: *The Declaration of Independence*** to your fellow students who are involved in the project ‘**Famous Documents of the English-speaking World**’. Use the fact file to speak about the document’s:

Historical Background	Worldwide Impact
Main Ideas	Criticism

Explain why the document can be regarded as a cornerstone and needs to be studied by those who learn English.

2. **Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes.**

Answer 2 QUESTIONS from your partner – ‘a fellow student’, who wants to get **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** that you have not mentioned in your presentation on the Document. Make sure your answer is based on the information from the fact file. If there is **NO** relevant information in the fact file, base your answer on your best guess.

You can make notes during the preparation time, but **YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ** them during the presentation.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE RECORDED

Declaration of Independence

<p>Historical Background</p>	<p>The Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. By issuing this document, the 13 American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain.</p> <p>The committee responsible for writing the text of the Declaration of Independence included Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston, and Roger Sherman, with the actual writing delegated to Jefferson.</p>
<p>Main ideas</p>	<p>It laid the foundation for the principles of liberty, democracy, and human rights that shaped the American Revolution and the United States of America:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural Rights: All individuals are endowed with certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, which are inherent to every human being and cannot be taken away. 2. Government by Consent: the government derives its power from the consent of the governed and is established to protect the rights of the people, when a government fails to do so, the people have the right to alter or abolish it. 3. Equality: All men are created equal. The notion of a hereditary monarchy or social hierarchy based on birthright is rejected and all individuals are equal before the law.
<p>Worldwide Impact</p>	<p>The document has global significance as one of the most influential in history that has inspired other nations seeking independence and freedom, serving as an inspiration for independence movements, spreading democratic values, shaping diplomatic relations, influencing human rights discourse.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspiration for Independence Movements around the World: The ideas of self-determination, individual rights, and government by consent. 2. Spread of Democratic Values: Such principles as equality, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness contributed to the spread of democratic values globally. 3. Influence on Human Rights: The inherent rights of individuals and the idea that governments exist to protect those rights helped shaping the development of international human rights standards creating subsequent documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
<p>Criticism</p>	<p>Despite its overwhelmingly positive impact on history, the Declaration of Independence was also a product of its time and bears some of the shortcomings of its era, including sexism, racism and prejudice against Native Americans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited Scope of Equality: The principle "all men are created equal" did not extend to all individuals at the time: slaves, women and indigenous peoples were not considered equal in the eyes of the law. 2. Rhetoric vs. Reality: The lofty language and ideals did not always align with the actions of American governments. This criticism highlights the hypocrisy between the principles in the Declaration and their implementation. 3. Lack of Specificity: This concise document outlines basic principles not providing detailed solutions to the challenges.

Speaking

Set 3 Student 1

Preparation – 15 minutes

Presentation and questions – 10 minutes

Task 1

Famous Documents of the English-speaking World

1. Monologue: Time 3 – 4 minutes

At the English Club meeting you are to present information concerning one of the most famous documents, that has changed the course of history in the English-speaking world and has a great international impact. As ‘an expert’ present the key points of **Set 3: *The Mayflower Compact*** to your fellow students, who are involved in the project ‘**Famous Documents of the English-speaking World**’. Use the fact file to speak about the document’s:

Historical Background	Worldwide Impact
Main Ideas	Criticism

Explain why the document can be regarded as a cornerstone and why it needs to be studied by those who learn English.

2. Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes.

Answer 2 QUESTIONS from your partner – ‘a fellow student’, who wants to get ADDITIONAL INFORMATION that you have not mentioned in your presentation on the Document. Make sure your answer is based on the information from the fact file. If there is NO relevant information in the fact file, base your answer on your best guess.

You can make notes during the preparation time, but YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ them during the presentation.

Task 2

1. Listen to the presentation of your partner (**Set 4: *The Emancipation Proclamation***).

2. Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes

Ask 2 QUESTIONS about the document to get ADDITIONAL INFORMATION not mentioned in the presentation. Yes/No questions and questions about the opinion of your partner are NOT accepted.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE RECORDED

Mayflower Compact

<p>Historical Background</p>	<p>The Mayflower Compact, one of the earliest governing documents in colonial America, written and signed by pilgrims on the English ship <i>Mayflower</i> in 1620. The Pilgrims – English Separatists, seeking religious freedom from the Church of England, sailed to North America, landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Before disembarking, they drafted and signed the Mayflower Compact to establish a social contract and form a government for the new colony. The compact has been interpreted as an important step in the evolution of democratic government in America.</p>
<p>Main ideas</p>	<p>This short document outlined the pilgrims’ right to govern themselves, to create a civilized society for the greater good of the colony with majority rule and the concept of the public good, not elites.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-governance: The document asserted the settlers’ commitment to self-governance and the establishment of a fair and just civil body. It aimed to create laws and regulations for the general good and the preservation of order. 2. Majority Rule: The Compact asserted the principle of majority rule, stating that laws and policies would be enacted based on the consent of the majority of the settlers. 3. Covenant and Consent: The document highlighted the idea of a voluntary agreement among the settlers, stating their commitment to form a civil body and follow the laws and regulations created by the government.
<p>Worldwide Impact</p>	<p>The Mayflower Compact helped unify the travelers in the new world by giving the common man a political voice. The purpose of the Mayflower Compact was to establish basic law and order in the colony. The document was intended to be not just a contract between the colonists but also between themselves and God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Democratic Principles: It served as a model for later colonial charters and influenced the development of self-governing institutions in the New World. 2. Influence on American Government: The ideas of the Mayflower Compact, particularly the principles of self-governance and consent of the governed, helped shape subsequent American political institutions, including the development of representative government.
<p>Criticism</p>	<p>The Mayflower Compact has faced some criticism, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exclusionary Nature: Critics argue that the Mayflower Compact had exclusionary elements, as it only applied to the male settlers aboard the Mayflower. It did not include the voices or participation of women, indigenous peoples, or other non-Puritan colonists. 2. Theocratic Tendencies: The Compact had theocratic tendencies since it was influenced by the Pilgrims’ religious beliefs. It limited religious freedom and the rights of non-Puritan colonists. 3. Limited Legal Authority: The Mayflower Compact was a self-created document without legal recognition from any higher authority. This limited its authority and legitimacy under English law.

Speaking

Set 4 Student 2

Preparation – 15 minutes

Presentation and questions – 10 minutes

Task 1

Famous Documents of the English-speaking World

1. **Listen** to the presentation of your partner (**Set 3: *The Mayflower Compact***).

2. **Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes**

Ask **2 QUESTIONS** about the document to get **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** not mentioned in the presentation. Yes/No questions and questions about the opinion of your partner are **NOT** accepted.

Task 2

1. **Monologue: Time 3 – 4 minutes**

At the English Club meeting you are to present information concerning one of the most famous documents, that has changed the course of history in the English-speaking world and has a great international impact. As ‘an expert’ present the key points of **Set 4: *The Emancipation Proclamation*** to your fellow students, who are involved in the project ‘**Famous Documents of the English-speaking World**’. Use the fact file to speak about the document’s:

Historical Background	Worldwide Impact
Main Ideas	Criticism

Explain why the document can be regarded as a cornerstone and why it needs to be studied by those who learn English.

2. **Questions/ Answers: Time: 2- 3 minutes.**

Answer **2 QUESTIONS** from your partner – ‘a fellow student’, who wants to get **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** that you have not mentioned in your presentation on the Document. Make sure your answer is based on the information from the fact file. If there is **NO** relevant information in the fact file, base your answer on your best guess.

You can make notes during the preparation time, but **YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ** them during the presentation.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE RECORDED

Emancipation Proclamation

Historical Background	<p>The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by the U.S. President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, during the third year of American Civil War, declared that all slaves held in the Confederate states in rebellion were to be set free. This aimed to weaken the South's labor force and undermine the Confederacy's ability to sustain its war efforts. As a result, over 200,000 black slaves joined the war. Many hearts and minds were won over by this document. The proclamation was followed by the 13th amendment which abolished slavery. Before the amendment, slavery was still lawful in Confederate states as well as southern states captured by the North. The 1863 document set the stage for its abolition.</p>
Main ideas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abolition of Slavery: The central idea of the Emancipation Proclamation was to declare the freedom of enslaved individuals (more than 3.5 million slaves) in the Confederate states. It stated that all slaves held in those states "shall be then, henceforward, and forever free." 2. Military Strategy: The Proclamation also had a strategic component. It sought to disrupt the Confederacy's workforce and weaken its economic and military capabilities. By offering freedom to enslaved individuals, it aimed to encourage them to escape from Confederate-controlled areas or to support the Union army.
Worldwide Impact	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A powerful symbol of freedom and human rights. It demonstrated to the world that the United States was committed to ending the institution of slavery and advancing the cause of emancipation. 2. The Proclamation influenced international opinion regarding the American Civil War. It helped to sway public sentiment in favor of the Union cause and discourage foreign governments from supporting the Confederacy.
Criticism	<p>The Proclamation was controversial. Although the Emancipation Proclamation had freed most slaves as a war measure, it had not made slavery illegal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited Scope: The Emancipation Proclamation only applied to enslaved individuals in Confederate states that were in rebellion. It did not immediately free all slaves in the United States, including those in Union-held territories. The Proclamation did not go far enough in completely ending slavery, as it did not free almost 0.5 million slaves in the border states loyal to the Union (Maryland, Missouri, Delaware, Kentucky). 2. Legal Basis: The Emancipation Proclamation was issued as an executive order and relied on President Lincoln's war powers as Commander-in-Chief. It overstepped constitutional limitations, as it did not have the support of Congress and only applied to rebel-held territories. 3. Enforcement Challenges: The Proclamation faced challenges in its practical enforcement. Since it relied on Union military advancements and the eventual end of the Civil War, its immediate impact on the ground was limited. Enslaved individuals in Confederate states had to wait for the Union forces to liberate their areas.