

Course Activities: Discussions

Discussions are activities you complete with other students either face-to-face or in an online forum. Discussions are a great way to interact with classmates, reflect on course material, express opinions, and practice communication skills in a less-formal setting.

Netiquette

Please abide by these guidelines in discussions:

- Avoid sarcasm and slang. Swear words are unacceptable. Never use derogatory comments, including those regarding race, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ability, political persuasion, body type, physical or mental health, or access issues.
- Avoid using ALL CAPS. This is perceived as shouting in the online world.
- Focus your responses on the questions or issues being discussed, not on the individuals involved. Be constructive with your criticism, not hurtful.
- Review your messages before sending them. Remove easily misinterpreted language and proofread for typos.
- Respect other people's privacy and never reveal e-mail addresses.

Complete a Discussion Activity

Begin a Discuss activity by **reading the instructions** page. Then, click to page 2 to use the online discussion forum.

Apex Learning - Google Chrome

courses.apexlearning.com/apps/AceWeb/launch2.do?CMTToken=MTk4MDMxNzI3&enrollmentID=25372625&outlineID=522220919

U.S. Government and Politics Core

UNIT 3 > LESSON 4 > ACTIVITY 4: From the Government and Here to Help You

Government

- 3.2 Congress
- 3.3 The Presidency
- 3.4 The Executive Branch and the Bureaucracy
 - 3.4.1 Study: Understanding the Federal Bureaucracy
 - 3.4.2 Read: Civil-Service Reform
 - 3.4.3 Study: The Structure of the Federal Bureaucracy
 - 3.4.4 **Discuss: From the Government and Here to Help You**
 - 3.4.5 Quiz: The Right Person for the Job
- 3.5 The Judicial Branch
- 3.6 Institutions of Government Wrap-Up
- 3.7 Diagnostic

4 Political Beliefs and Behaviors

5 Linkage Institutions

6 The Art of Policymaking

From the Government and Here to Help You

As the old joke goes, the three greatest lies are:

1. The check is in the mail.
2. I promise I won't tell anyone.
3. I'm from the government, and I'm here to help you.

Fair or not, Americans have a pretty low opinion of politicians. In this discussion, you'll have a chance to share what you think about government officials. Of course, you can't just claim to like or dislike someone without good reason, so you'll want to use the discussion planner to help you formulate a logical argument.

Questions

1. What do you think of government officials? Do you think most of them deserve their bad reputations? Why or why not?

This is a classwide discussion, so you'll be communicating with your entire class.

Directions

1. Click the printable discussion planner for detailed instructions and writing assistance for this activity.
2. After you complete your planner, go to the next page to participate in the discussion.
3. For technical instructions on using the discussion board, refer to the Student Resources unit.

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You can use this to "brainstorm your discussion response, but it is not to be turned in."

The first part of a discussion is a reply to the initial post – read all of the instructions and click the Reply button for the initial post.

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3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

Thread Starter: Initial_Post
Started: 08-08-2014 10:22 PM
Replies: 3

print threaded view

Sort Posts: By date ascending

08-08-2014, 10:22 PM

Initial_Post
Posts 3,756,722

3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

1. Enter the discussion by posting the statement you prepared using the discussion planner.

09-01-2014, 10:19 PM Gabriella Rios in reply to Initial_Post

Gabriella Rios
Posts 36

Re: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

1. Overall I think that government officials are great, they do there job but not all are like that. some do things so that they can get away with it instead of doing it the right way.

09-16-2014, 12:16 AM Alberto Villa in reply to Initial_Post

Alberto Villa
Posts 55

Re: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

I think we got our different opinions on each government official.I think some of them are just in it for the money or to get popular while others are in it to help our country out. Just because a government official can't achieve his goal doesn't mean he deserve a bad

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Next, enter your reply in the Message field and click the Preview button to edit, and then the Post button to submit. Please remember this is a graded written assignment, and it should not be written in “text speech”.

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Reply to an Existing Message
The message you are replying to: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

Initial_Post wrote the following post at 08-08-2014 10:22 PM:

1. Enter the discussion by posting the statement you prepared using the discussion planner.

Subject
Re: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

Message

☐ Do not allow replies

Post Icon:
None

Cancel Post Preview >

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The second part of a discussion is responding to other student posts and following up on responses to your posts. Click the Reply button for the post you want to respond to.

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Re: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

Posts 55

Edit Post | Delete | History

I think we got our different opinions on each government official. I think some of them are just in it for the money or to get popular while others are in it to help our country out. Just because a government official can't achieve his goal doesn't mean he deserves a bad reputation because at least he is trying. Others who don't even try deserve the bad reputation.

Yesterday, 11:34 PM

Re: 3.4.4 From the Government and Here to Help You

Posts 1

Edit Post | Delete | History

I am very blessed to live in the United States and to have a such a great government, especially in comparison to other countries. However, with power comes people who abuse it. Our government is well functioning in many aspects but I can't help but feeling like it's all a facade. Much corruption has leaked such as officials cheating the system to gain power in congress or other areas of government. Also, how currently our government is keeping most of what's going on in Syria very "hush hush." I feel as a citizen of the United States we should be kept up to date and informed on what exactly is going on because it does impact us as well as the government. In conclusion, I think the government officials need to be much more honest and informative with the citizens.

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