



Activity Sheet 2

Who Does What?

Did you know?

In Canada, the head of State and the head of government are distinct, and so are their responsibilities. Knowing who does what will help you to better understand the role played by The King, the governor general and the prime minister.

The King and the governor general act on the advice of the prime minister. The governor general ensures there is always a responsible government in place.

Instructions

Below are a few examples of responsibilities. In your opinion, which are The King's responsibilities today? Which are the governor general's? And which are the prime minister's (alone or with other ministers and parliamentarians)? Write your answers in the column on the right.

1. I am the head of State.

2. I am the head of government (I govern).

3. I represent Canada abroad (at the request of the prime minister).

4. I negotiate trade agreements with other countries.

5. I approve the creation of new honours.

6. I dissolve or prorogue Parliament.

7. I preside over the swearing-in of ministers and judges.

8. I defend the government's policies in the House.

9. I am the head of the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

10. I am the commander-in-chief of the Canadian Forces.

11. I draft bills.

12. I appoint the governor general.

13. I give Royal Assent to bills.

14. I manage the country's finances.

15. I grant Canadian honours.

16. I recommend the appointment of the governor general.

17. I write the Speech from the Throne (which the governor general will read).

18. I lend my non-partisan support to socio-cultural causes.

