HANDOUT 4: Parliamentary Vocabulary

Canada’s Parliament plays a vital role in the governance of our country but few Canadians clearly understand the legislative process. How are bills passed into law? Who can bring a bill forward? What kinds of bills are commonly found on the legislative order paper? These questions and others will be addressed as you search through the Parliament of Canada’s website at http://www.parl.gc.ca.

Instructions: Define each word below in a clear sentence or two. Use YOUR words to explain the meaning of each term.

Bill:
__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Law:
__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Order Paper:
__________________________________________________________________________

First Reading:
__________________________________________________________________________

Second Reading:
__________________________________________________________________________

Third Reading:
__________________________________________________________________________

Committee:
__________________________________________________________________________
Lobbyist:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

The Speaker of the House:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

The House of Commons:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

The Senate:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Senate Bill:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Private Member's Bill:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Government Bill:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Minority Government:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________

Majority Government:
____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________