

# MP for a day!

Your MP has chosen you to stand in for her for a day. The Rt. Hon Michael Martin MP, the Speaker of the House, introduces you to all the MPs in the House of Commons at Westminster. He asks you to give a speech about your constituency

## Task

Using [www.election-maps.co.uk](http://www.election-maps.co.uk) along with your own research and knowledge, design a speech to be presented to the rest of the class. You can print maps at different scales to use as visual aids if necessary.

Go to [www.election-maps.co.uk](http://www.election-maps.co.uk). Click on *Parliamentary Constituency* and write the name of your constituency in the box (your teacher will tell you the name of the constituency). Click *Go*.

On the next screen, fill in your postcode and click *Go*. The map will show your actual house and street. There is also an overview map of the area that you can click on and off.

Use the zoom in and out arrows at the top to get more or less detail. To find out about wards, Euro regions, assembly regions and so on click the boxes down the right-hand side and click *refresh map*.

In order to give the fullest picture possible to the other MPs, you should try to include answers to many or all of the following questions in your speech. Most answers can be found from the website, but some you may have to find out for yourself.

## Physical characteristics

- Whereabouts is it in the UK?
- What is the map reference?
- Is it hilly or flat?
- How big is it?
- What is the area size?
- Is it near the sea or inland?
- What sort of weather do you get?
- Are there any famous landmarks?

## Human characteristics

- Is it a rural or urban area?
- What is the main employment?
- Are there any famous buildings?

- Are there any large towns?
- What roads pass through the constituency?
- What are the names of the bordering constituencies?

**Election areas**

- What Euro region are you in?
- How many parishes are there in the constituency?
- What ward do you live in for local elections?
- You could also find out where some of the polling stations are.

**Things to be proud of**

Tell the House of Commons what you are proud of in the area. It may be beautiful, clean, friendly, and low in crime – whatever really does make you proud.

**Issues that concern you**

Finally, in your speech you would like to tell all the other MPs about three issues in your constituency that concern you or other people in the area. You must say why you are concerned and why you want them put right. For example, you might feel that there is a litter problem in the shopping centre which is unsightly, unhygienic and puts locals and tourists off going there.

**You could start your speech like this:**

My speech

Good morning. My name is.....

Today I am the MP for (put the name of your constituency in here). .....

.....

I am here instead of (try to find out your MP's name and what party they represent).....

.....

I would like to tell you a little about my constituency. In physical terms (include all the details you have on physical characteristics). .....

.....

Let me describe the human geography for you. ....

I would like now to tell you a little about the political geography and election information (include all you have found out about wards, parishes, polling stations, Euro regions.).....

.....

We are very proud of our constituency, firstly because of .....

Another source of pride is .....

A third point would be .....

However, if you lived in my constituency you would also be concerned about a number of things.

The first of these is.....

This needs sorting out because .....

The second issue is .....

The third concern is .....

I hope that you have enjoyed listening to my speech about my constituency and thank you for your time.



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