

## Introduction

The Northern Ireland Assembly Education Service website provides information and resources for pupils studying CCEA GCSE/Non GCSE Learning for Life and Work and CCEA GCSE English Language.

Developed in partnership with CCEA, **Years 11–12>MLA for a Week** targets:

### CCEA GCSE/Non GCSE Learning for Life and Work

#### Local and Global Citizenship

**Pupils should be able to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and, where appropriate, skills in relation to/At Key Stage 4, pupils should be enabled to develop awareness of:**

- Key democratic institutions and their role in promoting inclusion, justice and democracy.

*Please refer to the CCEA GCSE Specification in Learning for Life and Work for specific content requirements.*

### CCEA GCSE English Language

#### Unit 4: Studying Spoken and Written Language and Writing Creatively

##### The Study of Spoken Language

**Pupils should be able to:**

- understand the characteristics of spoken language;
- understand influences on spoken language choice;
- explore the impact of spoken language choices in their own and others' use; and
- understand how language varies in different contexts.

## MLA for a Week



Congratulations on your election!

Organise your diary

The people of your constituency have chosen you to represent them in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

As a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), you will be involved in debates and decision-making at Parliament Buildings: making and changing laws, debating issues in the Assembly Chamber and sitting on committees to examine issues, as well as carrying out work in your constituency.

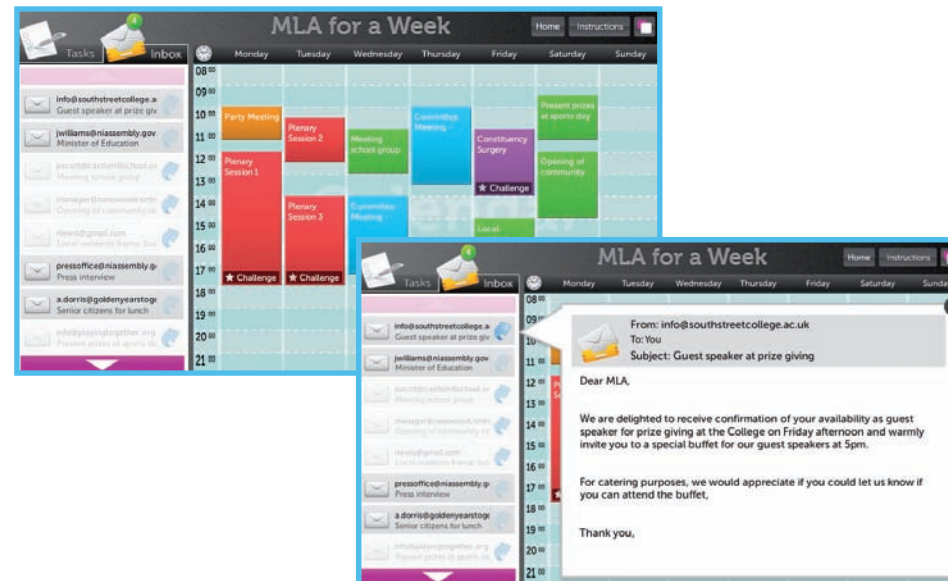
You must organise your diary to fit Assembly work and constituency commitments into the week.

Your diary is waiting in the office...

Start Instructions Challenges

## Online Activity

In MLA for a Week your pupils experience life as an MLA. They become familiar with the work of an MLA by organising their online diary of Assembly and constituency commitments. They also face the MLA challenges of holding a Press Conference and Constituency Surgery, asking questions at Question Time and Writing a Speech.



## How to Use the Multimedia

Use this activity to learn about the part an MLA plays in the Northern Ireland Assembly and their constituency. The MLA Challenges explore skills relevant to role of an MLA and the study of spoken language through English Language. This includes understanding audience and purpose at a press conference or using open and closed questions during Question Time. Video examples of MLAs debating in the Assembly Chamber are an opportunity to look at techniques for writing and delivering speeches.

To organise their diary, the pupils should double click to activate the items in the Tasks and Inbox tabs. They should read each item to find out where to place it in the diary.

Click on:

- the blue arrow to drag activated items to the correct slot in the diary;
- a diary block to get more information about that task; and
- any Challenges stars inside a block to jump to an MLA Challenge.

The diary is complete when all the tasks and emails are in place. A counter above the Tasks and Inbox tabs indicates how many items still need to be addressed.

MLA Challenges can also be accessed individually from the main menu of MLA for a Week.

## Web Resources

You will find information about the different ways we elect our representatives on the How do we elect MLAs? web page:

**Years 11–12>How do we elect MLAs?**

