

Student Instructions: Unit 2 Lesson 5



Labour Helps Change the Canadian Workplace

Suggested time: 2 Periods

What's important in this lesson:

The Great Depression and World War II resulted in changes in how Canadians worked. These changes occurred because the average Canadian worker fought for them. The power of the people should never be underestimated in the study of Canadian history.

Complete these steps:

1. Your teacher will lead a discussion based on the following questions:
 - “When you get a job, what are your responsibilities to your employer – and yourself?”
 - “What do you think work was like 60 or 70 years ago?”
 - Do you know what your grandparents did for a living and where they worked?”If your teacher is unable to lead a discussion, do a quick-write of your thoughts and, if possible, share your thoughts with a partner.
2. On a piece of paper, brainstorm as many ideas as possible around these two questions:
 - “Why should you be concerned about other people at your place of work?”
 - “When should you sacrifice your interests for those of the larger workforce?”Come up with as many ideas as possible, you will hand in your brainstorming sheet.
3. Read Handout 1, “The Visit”, which is a short play on workplace issues.
4. Look through a scrapbook or use your textbook to learn more about Canadian workers in this time period. Make notes of key facts.
5. Based on what you have read, create a one-page summary report to give to “Mr. Waters”, a character in the play. In your summary, list and explain the **five most important facts** that you learned about the struggle of the Canadian worker.
6. Before completing the final copy of your report, ask to see the rubric. The criteria on it can give you ideas about how to improve your report.

Student Instructions: Unit 2 Lesson 5



Hand-in the following to your teacher:

1. Your brainstorming sheet
2. Your one-page summary report for Mr. Waters

Questions for the teacher: