

Role-play on the passage of a mock bill

Air-conditioning System Control Bill

First Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Bill: First Reading.
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <i>(Stands up)</i> Air-conditioning System Control Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>

Second Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Second Reading. Secretary for Environment and Ecology.
SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY	: <i>(Stands up)</i> President, I move the Second Reading of the Air-conditioning System Control Bill. The Bill seeks to regulate the indoor air-conditioning systems installed in all primary and secondary schools, which must be turned off when the temperature is 25 degrees Celsius or below. The greenhouse effect will lead to global warming. Using less air-conditioning will help save energy and reduce the greenhouse gases produced. Young people should start at an early age learning how to live a “green” life and care about the environment ... <i>(Student may come up with more points of his/her own)</i> I urge Members to support the Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: I now propose the question to you: That the Air-conditioning System Control Bill be read the second time.</p> <p><i>(Second Reading debate to continue without adjournment)¹</i></p> <p>Does any Member wish to speak?</p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 1 – Election Committee raises his/her hand)</i></p> <p><u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 1 – Election Committee)</p>
HON (LegCo Member 1 – Election Committee)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Many students and teachers agree that during the cooler days of autumn and winter, they feel comfortable in a classroom without air-conditioning as long as the windows are kept open. With the open windows, indoor ventilation is improved, allowing teachers and students to breathe in fresh air. This also helps save electricity, thereby bringing about environmental and economic benefits ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> For these reasons, I support the Air-conditioning System Control Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 2 – Geographical Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 2 – Geographical Constituency)</p>

¹ The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, after the motion for the Second Reading of a bill has been moved, the debate on the bill is adjourned, with the bill being referred to the House Committee for scrutiny.

Role	Script
HON (LegCo Member 2 – Geographical Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Some schools have to keep their windows shut due to the noise nearby. If schools are required by law to turn off their air-conditioning systems at a specified temperature, they are forced to open the classroom windows even when there is noise outside. The noise will make it hard for students to concentrate on lessons ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> As such, I oppose to the Air-conditioning System Control Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 3 – Education Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 3 – Education Functional Constituency)</p>
HON (LegCo Member 3 – Education Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Many parents and teachers have found that children and teenagers are using air-conditioning too much and too often, both at home and in school. The problem is especially serious in summer. As such, students should learn how to use air-conditioning properly in order to save energy and protect the environment. It is important for them to have an awareness of efficient use of the Earth’s resources ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> For these reasons, I support the Air-conditioning System Control Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 4 – Commercial (first) Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 4 – Commercial (first) Functional Constituency)</p>

Role	Script
HON (LegCo Member 4 – Commercial (first) Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. If the air-conditioning systems installed in primary and secondary schools must be turned off when the temperature is 25 degree Celsius or below, these systems will be taken out of use on certain days. I am also concerned that fewer schools will choose to install air-conditioning systems. If this really happens, the businesses that make and sell air-conditioning systems would be badly affected ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> As such, I oppose the Air-conditioning System Control Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 5 – Medical and Health Services Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 5 – Medical and Health Services Functional Constituency)</p>
HON (LegCo Member 5 – Medical and Health Services Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Many medical studies show that if children and teenagers stay indoors with air-conditioning systems turned on for a long period of time, their airways will become weak and sensitive. Due to the great difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, their mouths, noses and throats may become dry. As such, it may be easier for them to have coughs or get other respiratory diseases ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> For these reasons, I support the Air-conditioning System Control Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: Does any other Member wish to speak?</p> <p><i>(The rest of the students acting as LegCo Members may raise their hands to indicate their wish to speak. Students should wait until the President calls his/her name to stand up and speak)</i></p> <p><u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member)</p>

Role	Script
	<i>(One by one, the President calls upon the students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak to stand up and speak)</i>
HON (LegCo Member)	: <i>(Stands up)</i> (Student to express his/her views) <i>(Sits down)</i>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <i>(All students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak have finished delivering their speeches)</i> Does any other Member wish to speak? (If no Member indicates a wish to speak) If not, I now call upon the Secretary for Environment and Ecology to reply. Then, the debate will come to a close. Secretary for Environment and Ecology.
SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY	: <i>(Stands up)</i> President, Members have expressed great concern about students' health, energy saving and reduction of air pollution. This is the reason why we propose the Bill. As such, I call on all Members to support the Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I now put the question to you: That the Air-conditioning System Control Bill be read the second time. Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i> Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>

Role	Script
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;"> (If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill) </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;"> (If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill) </div> </div>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <i>(Stands up)</i> Air-conditioning System Control Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>
	PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
	: I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived. <i>(If the motion is negatived, no further proceedings shall be taken on the Bill)</i>

(The proceedings of committee of the whole Council to be omitted)²

Third Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Council now resumes. Third Reading — Air-conditioning System Control Bill. Secretary for Environment and Ecology.
SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY	: <i>(Stands up)</i> President, I move that the Air-conditioning System Control Bill be read the third time and do pass. <i>(Sits down)</i>

² The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, when a motion for the Second Reading of a bill has been agreed to, the Council becomes committee of the whole Council. Members may propose amendments to the bill as well as discuss whether they support the proposed amendments and whether the clauses should stand part of the bill.

Role	Script
	<i>(Debate to be omitted)</i> ³
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I now put the question to you: That the Air-conditioning System Control Bill be read the third time and do pass. Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i> Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>

(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)	(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL : I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.	PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL : I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived.
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL : <i>(Stands up)</i> Air-conditioning System Control Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>	

- End -

³ The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, Members may debate the motion for the Third Reading of a bill. Members may only make a short speech on whether the bill should be supported.