

*“The sidebars are great - excellent teaching strategies for differentiation; hints help you get a quick overview; it is visually appealing - easy to navigate, not cluttered.*

*The resources will be very helpful to teachers as they align nicely with the programs at each of the grade.*

*Overall, I would provide a ‘two thumbs up’ to the resources. Teacher will be able to use the resources in engaging and meaningful ways within the classroom and as a result students will ultimately benefit.*

*Students enjoyed the word splash activity and used it as a springboard to discussing important concepts associated with democracy – key to understanding and analyzing why and how people decide to vote.*

*There are some very effective/powerful activities that engage students. I think it should be mentioned up front that the activities can be used as a part of a learning sequence or used as hooks for the start of various units throughout grade 9. I think this is a particular strength of the package.*

*If we are attempting to convince students that the democratic process impacts and includes them, the activities in this unit are a good start.*

*I wish I had time to try more of these activities with students this year. However, I will definitely implement these activities in the coming year. There is lots of information included and so many great ideas and activities. It is a nice break from the text book routine.*

*To engage students in discussion I just did the T-Chart on injustices in general and how they could be addressed. This generated a wide variety of issues that hooked students into the discussion. They used examples from their personal life, school and society in general. Then we expanded the idea of injustices by doing the reading. Many of the ideas were already brought up but the specific examples showed them that this is/was a problem in Canada too.*

*This package certainly complies with the spirit of the new curriculum - critical thinking, multiple perspectives, inquiry, dimensions of thinking. I think it does a good job at going beyond the stale mechanics of civics education to engaging students in considering democracy’s strengths and challenges and how voting is an essential tool for citizens.*