

STATESMANSHIP CONFERENCE

8th-9th August



BACKGROUND GUIDE

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Letter from the Executive Board

Greetings!

It gives us immense pleasure to welcome you to this simulation of Harry Potter for Statesmanship Model United Nations. We look forward to an enriching and rewarding experience.

The agenda for the session being "Managing the crisis caused in the ministry of magic due the return of the dark lord" .

This study guide is by no means the end of research, we would very much appreciate it if the ministers are able to find new realms in the agenda and bring it forth in the committee. Such research combined with good argumentation and a solid representation of facts is what makes much as possible, as fluency, diction or oratory skills have very little importance as opposed to the content you deliver. So just research and speak and you are bound to make a lot of sense. We are certain that we will be learning from you immensely and we also hope that you all will have an equally enriching experience. In case of any queries feel free to contact us. We will try our best to answer the questions to the best of our abilities.

We look forward to an exciting and interesting committee, which should certainly be helped by the all-pervasive nature of the issue. Hopefully we, as members of the Executive Board, do also have a chance to gain from being a part of this committee. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any doubts that you may have.

All the Best!

Khushi Amin
(Co-Chairperson)

Alishka Sagar
(Co-Chairperson)

Shruti Heda
(Vice Chairperson)

WORKING OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Portfolio and roleplay

Each member of this council represents a character from the Wizarding World. Now, a character (as is obvious) is a live, tangible being in a narrative. For this very reason, understanding and interpreting a character has complex lineaments attached to it. A delegate would be required to present a palpable manifestation of the consciousness of the individual assigned to them. In order to achieve this successfully, one must analyze and understand a few different layers of context. Gauging character motivations and recognizing patterns can often be a daunting prospect. One might ask themselves the following questions so as to demystify and abridge the entire process:

- Where does my character come from? (History)
- What does my character have? (Resources, skills and so on)
- What does my character want? (Motivation)
- What can/can't my character do? (Limitations and Principles)

Upon successfully answering these questions as exhaustively as possible, it will become marginally unclouded as to how you will have to approach your portfolio in terms of the character.

Once you have the relevant minutiae associated with your character in your mind, you just need to factor everything in at every precipice in order to try and emulate as closely as possible what your character would do in various situations.

Your thinking, ideology, actions and capacity to make decisions shall depend on that of your character. Your performance in the committee depends on how well you

portray your character and carry out the process of role-playing. Read about your character, try imagining yourself in situations which he/she faces or faced. An important aspect of role-playing is understanding why your character behaves the way she/he does. Delegates often ask whether their portrayal of a character is up to the mark. To avoid these questions, empathy is the key. Gaining empathetic connect with your character is the key to gaining the ability to think and behave like your character and thus the key to making lesser mistakes.

2. Fact Sharing

Our council operates on input put forth by the council members. All the members bring information, share it with the council and then thorough plans are passed for execution. The dais will not be the only entity establishing facts & providing information to the council. The council members themselves need to carry the council forward with their critical inputs. However, the Executive Board shall preside over the verification and confirmation of the information.

While trying to maintain a consistent flow of facts from the council's side to the dais the delegates must keep in mind that they can divulge only that which is theirs to divulge. In simpler terms, if your portfolio has no logical explanation of being privy to a certain piece of information, you cannot give it away as something that your portfolio knows of or has come to know of. For example: Even though we, as ardent admirers of the Harry Potter books know that Harry Potter has an Invisibility Cloak, Lucius Malfoy's portfolio in the council cannot reveal or even refer to this fact because logically, he has no way of knowing what Harry has or does not until and unless Harry or somebody else who knows about the cloak admits it to Lucius or to the committee at large.

IMPORTANT INCIDENTS TO HAVE OCCURED AFTER THE RISE OF VOLDEMORT

1. Reopening of the chamber of secrets.

The chamber was first opened during 1942-1943 school year by a 16 year old teenager by the name of Tom Riddle, later known as Lord Voldemort. As the Heir of Slytherin, he could control the Basilisk and he let it loose as a result of which many students were petrified. The last victim was a student named Myrtle Warren who was killed in the girl's bathroom. Tom framed fellow student Rubeus Hagrid for the same who was then wrongfully expelled. Albus Dumbledore, however, distrusted Riddle and kept a close watch on him after that. As it was no longer safe to open the Chamber of Secrets, Riddle, not wanting his research to be for naught, created a Diary in which to preserve his 16 year old self and hoped it would one day lead someone to finish Slytherin's "noble quest". The diary was also made a Horcrux (an object that holds the user immortal) with the murder of Myrtle. This was one of Tom Riddle's first action towards becoming the feared Lord Voldemort.

The chamber was then reopened in 1992 when the diary of Tom Riddle manipulated and controlled Ginny Weasley who got hold of the diary through Lucius Malfoy who slipped it in her cauldron while viewing her other spell books. Ginny was compelled to vandalise the school by painting messages on the corridor walls outside moaning Myrtle's bathroom. Ginny was taken down to the Chamber to die, while Riddle intended to feed off her life force in order to become fully alive again. Harry Potter, Ron Weasley, and then-Defence Against the Dark Arts

Professor Gilderoy Lockhart went to the Chamber to rescue Ginny.

Once in the Chamber, Harry met with the memory of Tom Riddle, which was preserved in the diary. A near-dead Ginny lay nearby, whose life force was slowly being drained. As Ginny grew weaker, Riddle grew stronger. Riddle then revealed that he was, in fact, Lord Voldemort (rearranging the letters of his name from "Tom Marvolo Riddle" to "I am Lord Voldemort") and then summoned the Basilisk. Harry battled the Basilisk with Godric Gryffindor's Sword. As Harry impaled the Basilisk, a fang stabbed into his arm in the process. Near death, Harry used the fang to stab the diary, which spurted out black blood like ink, and the memory of Riddle preserved in it was destroyed. That action also effectively destroyed the fragment of Voldemort's soul within it, as Basilisk venom was one of the substances that were capable of destroying Horcruxes.

2. Mass breakout from Azkaban

MASS BREAKOUT FROM AZKABAN was a *Daily Prophet* article about the 1996 mass breakout from Azkaban, in which ten Death Eaters, including Bellatrix Lestrange, Antonin Dolohov, and Augustus Rookwood, were able to break out of their cells with the help of the Dementor guards, who had switched sides and were following Lord Voldemort. The article also included a brief interview with Minister for Magic Cornelius Fudge, in which he voiced his opinion that Sirius Black was the mastermind behind the breakout. The article also spawned a growing discontent with the Ministry of Magic, with many finding Fudge's explanation of the incident lacking. The article also caused Dolores Umbridge, in her role as Hogwarts High Inquisitor, to attempt to further tighten her control over Hogwarts.

3. The Second Wizarding War and the Battle of Hogwarts

- The Second Wizarding War refers to the conflicts stemming from the Dark Wizard Lord Voldemort's second rise to power after his return in 1995. Voldemort and his followers, the Death Eaters, waged a violent campaign across both, the Wizarding and Muggle communities, seeking to topple the Ministry of Magic and subjugate Muggle-borns, with the eventual goal of conquering the entire Wizarding World, and the Muggle world along with it. Harry Potter, prophesied as the "Chosen One" capable of bringing an end to Voldemort's power, took an active role in this war, alongside his peers in the Dumbledore's Army and the members of the Order of the Phoenix. The Second War technically began on 24 June, 1995, though it was not officially announced by the Ministry until nearly a year later on 17 June, 1996, and ended on 2 May, 1998, at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, after the death of the Dark Lord.
- The Battle of Hogwarts was the final conflict of the Second Wizarding War. It took place within the castle and on the grounds of Hogwarts.

When the Dark Wizard Lord Voldemort learned that his archenemy Harry Potter had secretly ventured into the castle to locate and destroy one of his final Horcruxes, he ordered every single Death Eater and dark creature that had ever pledged loyalty to him to launch a massive attack on the school. Dumbledore's Army then communicated the need to fight to the Order of the Phoenix and their other allies within the British Ministry Of Magic, leading to a large-scale battle. Voldemort led his forces from the Shrieking Shack in Hogsmeade; while Harry Potter, Kingsley Shacklebolt and Minerva McGonagall led the

defenders of Hogwarts. Voldemort also announced that he wanted Harry Potter to surrender himself by midnight. The battle ended with a decisive victory for the Order and the D.A., with many Death Eaters and Voldemort himself dead. It was the most devastating battle of the war, with casualties including: Lord Voldemort, Bellatrix Lestrange, Remus Lupin, Nymphadora Tonks, Severus Snape, Fred Weasley, Colin Creevey, Lavender Brown, and at least fifty more who fought against Voldemort and his Death Eaters.

4. Fall of the Ministry of Magic

Lord Voldemort and his Death Eaters were ascending in strength. Most of this was due to the former Minister for Magic Cornelius Fudge refusing to acknowledge Voldemort's return. Fudge's desire to prevent the destruction of the peace that the Ministry has worked so hard to maintain resulted in losing the chance for the citizens to prepare themselves for this tragedy and allowing the Death Eaters to have a full year to rebuild their forces unhindered.

Over the course of the next year, the Ministry carried out many atrocities in line with death eater ideology, notably creating the Muggle-Born Registration Commission in order to imprison innocent Muggle-borns in Azkaban. The Fall of the Ministry of Magic refers to Lord Voldemort's coup of the Ministry of Magic in 1997 during the height of the Second Wizarding War. The coup was preceded by the Death Eaters using the Imperius Curse to gain servants high up in the Ministry, including Pius Thicknesse, the head of the Department of Magical Law Enforcement. They eventually managed to get enough people in place to assassinate Minister for Magic, Rufus Scrimgeour and

install Thicknesse in his place, as Voldemort's puppet. The coup also resulted in Voldemort taking control of the newspaper *Daily Prophet*, allowing him to control the information given to the public. With this new tool he spread propaganda against Harry Potter, Muggle-borns and allies of the Order of the Phoenix. This was disguised as the Ministry's new policy. Using the power of the Ministry, the Death Eaters managed to take down the protections the Order had placed around its new headquarters, The Burrow, and its safehouses, as well as use illegal spells to full effects without fear or destruction and prosecution.

5. Delphi manipulates Albus and Scorpius to save Cedric Diggory

Albus overhears a conversation between Amos Diggory and Harry Potter, his father, about Cedric's death. Amos wanted Harry to use one of the Ministry's Time-Turners to bring his son back from the dead. Harry repeatedly denied the fact that there were any more in existence. While eavesdropping, Albus meets Delphini Diggory, Amos's niece. They're fast friends even though she's a young adult and a little older than him. Albus even develops a crush on her. Partially to impress Delphi, and partially to be like his father, Albus develops a plan to steal the Ministry's time turner and go back in time and save Cedric. Scorpius and Amos agree, and Delphi immediately offers to help. They do successfully retrieve the time turner. And they start their preparation to go back in time and save Cedric. But, Delphi's intentions were disguised behind her willingness to help. Delphini Riddle Lestrange, daughter of Lord Voldemort and Bellatrix Lestrange, born to another Prophecy and trying to prevent the first. Delphi didn't go back in time to save Cedric. She went back in time to make sure Cedric became a Death Eater, and that Harry Potter

lost the battle and died, and that her father survived. She wanted to live in a world where they celebrated Voldemort day. The way she fiddles with the young boys' minds states her cunningness and desire to rise as a Dark Wizard to witness the world that Voldemort visualised.

6. Other Important Events

- Tom turns Marvolo's ring into the first horcrux using the murders of his father and grandparents.
- Tom turns his diary into a horcrux using the murder of Moaning Myrtle.
- Tom murders a muggle tramp and creates the locket horcrux.
- Voldemort turns Ravenclaw's diadem into a horcrux and hides it in the Room of Requirement.
- Peter Pettigrew starts passing information to Voldemort.
- James and Lily Potter are killed and Voldemort is defeated.
- Hagrid is sent to Azkaban and Dumbledore removed (1993).
- Cedric Diggory is murdered.
- Dumbledore is killed.
- Muggle-born Registration Commission is appointed.
- Delphi is born to Bellatrix Lestrange.
- Scorpius and Albus use the time turner multiple times.

IMPLICATIONS ON THE MUGGLE WORLD

1. Collapse of the Millenium Bridge

In the summer of 1996, Lord Voldemort ordered Cornelius Fudge to step aside from his position as Minister for Magic, with the threat of a mass Muggle killing if he did not do so. Fudge refused to step down, and thus Voldemort ordered Death Eaters to cause the Brockdale Bridge and the Millennium Bridge to collapse.

On 24 June, 1996, the bridge was attacked by Fenrir Greyback and a group of Death Eaters. Muggle Penelope Taylor, who was standing on the bridge, glimpsed "*these plumes of smoke in the sky*" that disappeared once they were directly looked at, just before the attack. The Death Eaters flew around the bridge in a spiral motion to create a twisting and buckling movement on the bridge walkway, and proceeded to fire blasts onto the bridge (at least seven, according to witness reports). The cables snapping, the bridge undulated and twisted intensely, pulling free of its piers, ultimately splitting in half and crashing violently into the Thames below, killing some Muggles who were crossing the bridge at the time.

2. The Muggle-born Registration Commission

The Muggle-Born signup was set up within a month of Lord Voldemort taking over the Ministry of Magic, supposedly because the Department of Mysteries conducted research which found that magic could only be inherited and thus any "so-called Muggle-born" must have obtained magic by thievery. The Commission was then set up, ostensibly, in order to investigate this. This news was reported by the *Daily Prophet*.

Although they claimed to have "issued an invitation" for Muggle-borns to meet with the Commission, the Commission forced Muggle-borns to turn themselves in, sending Snatchers against any who tried to avoid them. Furthermore, their "interviews" were shams, fully intent on sending innocent Muggle-borns to Azkaban, or stripping them of their wands and jobs, leaving them impoverished. The Commission had Muggle-borns who registered fill out questionnaires about their family history and then wait for their trial behind bars in the Ministry of Magic. While awaiting trial, they were guarded by Dementors and threatened with the Dementor's Kiss if they resisted. Trials were held by Commission head Dolores Umbridge, who was assisted by Death Eater and head of the Department of Magical Law Enforcement Yaxley at times. Those who could not prove that they had magical heritage - in other words, any Muggle-born and potentially some half-bloods - were sentenced to Azkaban for having "stolen" magic.

TIMELINE

The following is a cursory compilation of the chronology leading up to October 2020.

1990

Professor Quirrell takes a year off and encounters Voldemort

1991

July

31st - Failed attempt to steal the Philosopher's Stone

August

Voldemort possess Quirrell

1992

June

Harry confronts Quirrell and defeats Voldemort

September

Ginny is possessed by Tom Riddle in his diary

8th (*circa*) - The Chamber of Secrets is reopened

1993

May

29th - The spirit form of Voldemort is defeated by Harry (Destruction of Tom Riddle's diary which was a horcrux using the fang of the dead Basilisk)

1995

June

24th - Voldemort is reborn

24th - Duel in the Little Hangleton Graveyard

24th - Death of Cedric Diggory

1996

January

13th (circa) - Ten death eaters escape in the first mass breakout from Azkaban

June

17th - The Second Wizarding War begins

20th - The Battle of the Department of Mysteries

20th - Death of Sirius Black

1997

July

21st (circa) - Charity Burbage is murdered

27th - Battle of the 7 Potters

27th - Death of Moody in the battle

August

1st - Fall of the Ministry of Magic

1998

March

Grindelwald is murdered

May

1st - Snape is killed by Nagini in Shrieking Shack

1st and 2nd - Battle of Hogwarts

2nd - Bellatrix Lestrange dies in a duel with Molly Weasley

2nd - The piece of Voldemort's soul in Harry is destroyed

2nd - Death of Voldemort

CONCLUDING SECTION

We hope to have illustrated the basics of how this committee shall go about.

All 7 books remain valid sources of information on the Universe, along with the companion HPwikia pages. Remember that there is no substitute for logical reasoning and substantiation, in your chits or your speeches. Anything posited by you in your chits stands to be real if it is deemed plausibly so by the dais. Be it only a fictional simulation, the inherent tenets applicable to a crisis simulation stand strong even on the backdrop of J.K.Rowling's iconic fantasy world.

- External Research: We cannot stress the importance of this. Read about the fandom, read the books & scour the internet. Learn everything there is to be learned about your respective characters, since you're meant to be simulating these individuals. Next to that is your cabinet ideology and dynamics, which are essential to be able to survive and operate within your own system. Delve into the collective mindset of your cabinet. Understand what drives you as a group, how you justify yourselves as a movement, and the myriad dynamics in between.
- Potential Update Papers: We may choose to release update papers illustrating substantive or procedural aspects of the committee which we feel deserve explication. They shall be delivered to you by means of the whatsapp group or via chat window, and can pertain to any subject concerning committee. We may release these at any point between now and the end of committee.

- Conference Day: Well, this one is philosophically self-evident (which is to say, obvious). Plus points for getting the reference may or may not be in order.

Feel free to reach out to us with any doubts or queries you might have, via social media or by dropping an email to our ID's. Thank you for bearing with us, and best of luck for committee