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Speakers	Web DVD	Video Summary	Page No.	E1	E2	E3	L1 L2
Roger Harington	014	A city councillor describes his job, the difference between councillors and MPs and how he became a councillor.	2	x	x	✓	✓
		A background to Leeds City Council, its structure and how much it spends. ESOL students then interview the Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds, councillor Ann Castle. (The first section is most suitable for Entry 1 and 2.)	17	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ann Castle (reduced sound quality)	015			tutor selection	tutor selection		
John Battle MP	016	An MP describes his job, his main concerns and what he believes is a good citizen. Some sections may be suitable for Entry 3.	32	x	x	✓	✓

To download videos, audio files and a Microsoft Word version of this teaching workbook please visit: www.esoluk.co.uk/download.html

Answer key to multiple-choice questions: **page 46**

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Speaker: 014 Roger Harington

Job: Local councillor



Skill	Suggested Activities
Speaking:	Talk about local issues which you might want to discuss with your councillor. Role-play a meeting with your councillor.
Listening:	Listen for information such as when you can contact the councillor, what problems he deals with and how he became a councillor.
Reading:	Find local councillors on the internet. Read council leaflets looking at different services.
Writing:	Write an e-mail to a councillor about a local matter.

Transcript:

1. **Mary:** So, thank you Roger, very much for letting us come and interview you.
2. **Roger:** Not at all
3. **Mary:** Ok, so the first question then, can you tell us a little bit about what you do in the job?
4. **Roger:** Councillors get elected first of all because they are thought able to represent people. So that means that individuals can get in touch with me to say, 'my bins haven't been emptied', 'my son or daughter hasn't got to the school of their choice', 'the repairs for my house have not been done.' That kind of thing. So on an individual level people might ring you to say, 'that

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hasn't been done,' and as a councillor you have an access to the various departments in the council, which ordinary, non-elected persons do not have. So you might be able to speed up the process, you might not, but you do have an access and so it's on that level first of all.

5. Then there are lots of meetings locally, whether they be residents meetings, when residents have a chance to get together to meet officers and say what hasn't, council officers that is, to say what has or hasn't been done.
6. **Mary:** Can you tell me a little bit more maybe about the kind of problems that people come to you with? You're obviously representing this area here in Harehills.
7. **Roger:** Yes. Yes.
8. **Mary:** What are the main problems?
9. **Roger:** I suppose most of them have been to do with housing and I mean people will, that is the, it's not strictly speaking council housing, it's now called, it belongs to the city council housing has been divided up into five areas called 'ALMOs', so East Leeds homes manages a whole lot of what used to be council housing and a lot of people get in touch to say repairs haven't been done or they want a house and that's quite frustrating for them, first of all, but also for me as a councillor because a lot of the time there's not a lot you can do, because it depends on what priority they are as to what house they can get and yes.
10. **Mary:** So how do people contact you?
11. **Roger:** People, either they see me at a meeting, they might be at a residents meeting, or they ring me up or they e-mail me, but I also have what's called a **surgery**, or an advice session, once a fortnight, at Compton Road Library so people can also go there.
12. **Mary:** Right.
13. **Roger:** And also, I do what's called a street surgery so a letter goes to a hundred people at a time, saying I'm coming down your street between 11 o'clock and 12 o'clock next Saturday morning. Put this letter in your window if you want me to stop. Plus we send out newsletters, 3 or 4 times a year, which say, if you want to contact me, this is the way, but most people either ring me up or e-mail me. People do come to surgeries, but they don't have to depend on that because there's other ways.
14. **Mary:** OK. Thank you. So, one question I've always wanted somebody to explain. Can you explain the difference between a councillor and an MP?
15. **Roger:** The first difference is that an MP has more power.

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16. **Mary:** OK yes.
17. **Roger:** And the next thing, of course, is an MP is representing a larger area. That's the most obvious difference, so, I'm the councillor for one ward whereas the MP is, in his constituency there will be 4 wards in East Leeds anyway. And, of course, the next big difference is that he is representing that particular area in London, in Parliament, whereas, I'm representing this particular area in this council here in Leeds.
18. So I have a strictly Leeds focus, whereas he, although he of course is very committed to his area of Leeds, he doesn't appear in the local council. He goes to Parliament to try and articulate the needs of the area there and of course, support the government in its policy.
19. **Mary:** Right, thank you, and something that, one of the questions people sometimes ask me, they may not be British, they may be living here in Leeds in your area, in your ward, and they think, well, can I approach my local councillor? I'm not British, can I do that? So do you help everybody?
20. **Roger:** Certainly, anybody can get in touch with their local councillor, of course, if they haven't got British Citizenship, they can't vote, or be councillors themselves but they can, anyone can get in touch with their local councillor.
21. **Mary:** So any problems people can ...
22. **Roger:** Yes, of course, sadly there are a lot of problems to do with refugees and asylum seekers at the moment and that also can be very very, well that's a perfect example of where the MP has more clout. I have to say to them, I'm passing the buck really because you need to get in touch with your MP because he'll have more clout to try and change a decision, yes, more power.
23. **Mary:** OK that's really interesting. Now what about me, if I say I want to become a councillor, how can I become a councillor?
24. **Roger:** If you want to become a councillor, your first route is to say, well the first thing I'd ask you is are you a member of a particular party?
25. **Mary:** Right.
26. **Roger:** Now I don't know how the Tories and the Lib Dems and Greens work, but if you're a Labour person and you want to be a Labour councillor, then you'd have to be on what's called the, you have to be, go to an interview and be put on a panel of acceptable candidates.
27. **Mary:** OK.

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28. **Roger:** So, in my case, I was invited along to this panel, to the interview body and was eventually onto the list of, whatever it is, 30, 40 acceptable candidates. And then it's for each ward party in Leeds to look at that list and say, who shall we invite to interview.
29. And so if you're invited to interview, and another factor there is that some wards have to have all women short list to make sure there are enough women being elected. Then if you go to that interview and you're selected as a candidate, then of course there's a matter of an election.
30. And so you work with your local ward supporters to try and get yourself elected. That's roughly speaking the Labour route, but you might of course say, 'I have a plague on all the political parties,' I'm not a member of any of them and I'm going to stand on my own.
31. Well, that would be up to you to get some supporters to help you do some leafleting and whatever. And you also, when it comes to an election, have to have a piece of paper signed by 10 people to say that they support your nomination.
32. **Mary:** So you have to be on a list, well you have to be a member of a political party.
33. **Roger:** Usually yes.
34. **Mary:** You have to be on a list of acceptable candidates.
35. **Roger:** Yes.
36. **Mary:** You have to be selected and then you have to go about getting elected.
37. **Roger:** That's it.
38. **Mary:** Thank you, thank you Roger, thank you for your time and for your fascinating views.
39. **Roger:** No, pleasure.
40. **Mary:** Ok.

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014 Questions: answers at back or visit www.esoluk.co.uk

- 1) At number 4, what is meant by 'represent people'?
 - a. talk to people
 - b. ask people to help each other
 - c. help people by speaking for them
 - d. ask people to vote for you

- 2) At number 4, what is meant by 'individuals can get in touch with me'?
 - a. people can touch me
 - b. people can speak to me
 - c. people can listen to me
 - d. people always complain

- 3) At number 4, what is meant by 'speed up the process'?
 - a. travel quickly to the council office
 - b. make everyone at the council office work harder
 - c. make things happen more quickly
 - d. make everyone at the council office listen to you

- 4) At number 18, what is meant by 'articulate the needs of the area'?
 - a. live in the area to find out what problems it has
 - b. think about how to help people
 - c. speak about the problems in an area
 - d. find what problems there are

- 5) At number 22, what is meant by 'the MP has more clout'?
 - a. the MP earns a lot of money
 - b. the MP has more power
 - c. the MP is more important
 - d. the MP is better than other people

- 6) At number 22, what is meant by 'passing the buck'?
 - a. sharing money with other people
 - b. blaming yourself when something goes wrong
 - c. quitting your job when something goes wrong
 - d. blaming someone else when something goes wrong

- 7) At number 24, what is meant by 'your first route'?
 - a. the first direction
 - b. your first option

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- c. there is only one choice
- d. you must be first

8) At number 28, what is meant by 'acceptable candidates'?

- a. people suitable for the job
- b. people who are honest
- c. people who were born in the area
- d. people who have a lot of money

9) At number 29, what is meant by an 'all women short list'?

- a. only women
- b. only women who are short can apply
- c. a list of candidates who are all women

10) At number 4, what is meant by 'I have a plague on all the political parties'?

- a. I'm not allowed to vote for any political party
- b. I don't know any political parties
- c. I hate all political parties
- d. I like all political parties

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014 listening/reading gapfill:

The words removed below are the key words used most by this speaker.

- Listen to a small section at a time and try to hear the missing words, **or/and**
- read the text and fill in the gaps.
- Interactive gapfill and spelling test at: www.esoluk.co.uk/014.html

Words: *access candidates elected invited meetings parliament repairs representing residents supporters surgery ward wards*

1. **Mary:** So, thank you Roger, very much for letting us come and interview you.

2. **Roger:** Not at all

3. **Mary:** Ok, so the first question then, can you tell us a little bit about what you do in the job?

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5. Then there are lots of [5] _____ locally, whether they be [6] _____ [7] _____, when [8] _____ have a chance to get together to meet officers and say what hasn't, council officers that is, to say what has or hasn't been done.

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6. **Mary:** Can you tell me a little bit more maybe about the kind of problems that people come to you with? You're obviously [9] _____ this area here in Harehills.

7. **Roger:** Yes. Yes.

8. **Mary:** What are the main problems?

9. **Roger:** I suppose most of them have been to do with housing and I mean people will, that is the, it's not strictly speaking council housing, it's now called, it belongs to the city council housing has been divided up into five areas called 'ALMOs', so East Leeds homes manages a whole lot of what used to be council housing and a lot of people get in touch to say [10] _____ haven't been done or they want a house and that's quite frustrating for them, first of all, but also for me as a councillor because a lot of the time there's not a lot you can do, because it depends on what priority they are as to what house they can get and yes.

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13. **Roger:** And also, I do what's called a street [13] _____ so a letter goes to a hundred people at a time, saying I'm coming down your street between 11 o'clock and 12 o'clock next Saturday morning. Put this letter in your window if you want me to stop. Plus we send out newsletters, 3 or 4 times a year, which say, if you want to contact me, this is the way, but most people either ring me up

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18. So I have a strictly Leeds focus, whereas he, although he of course is very committed to his area of Leeds, he doesn't appear in the local council. He goes to [20] _____ to try and articulate the needs of the area there and of course, support the government in its policy.

19. **Mary:** Right, thank you, and something that, one of the questions people sometimes ask me, they may not be British, they may be living here in Leeds in your area, in your [21] _____, and they think, well, can I approach my local councillor? I'm not British, can I do that? So do you help everybody?

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21. **Mary:** So any problems people can.

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36. **Mary:** You have to be selected and then you have to go about getting [34] _____.

37. **Roger:** That's it.

38. **Mary:** Thank you, thank you Roger, thank you for your time and for your fascinating views.

39. **Roger:** No, pleasure.

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014 sequencing activity:

Conversation requires the skilful use of a number of language features.

1. Read the conversation and underline discourse markers (e.g. okay, yes, well, now, right, so, anyway, uh-huh) and think about the purpose of each one.
2. Underline key words and phrases spoken at the end of one paragraph and repeated by the next speaker.
3. Underline any other turn-taking patterns and conventions.
4. Place the paragraphs in the correct order, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ... **or** cut out and re-sequence.
5. Check answers by watching the video or read the full text.
6. Find a friend and practise speaking aloud the full conversation.

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Mary: OK.

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014 punctuation activity:

1. Replace all the commas (,) full-stops (.) apostrophes (') question marks (?)
2. When punctuating, underline difficulties where spoken English does not follow the same 'rules' as written English.
3. Replace capital letters where needed.
4. Check your answers by reading the full text.

mary: so thank you roger very much for letting us come and interview you

roger: not at all

mary: ok so the first question then can you tell us a little bit about what you do in the job

roger: councillors get elected first of all because they are thought able to represent people so that means that individuals can get in touch with me to say my bins havent been emptied my son or daughter hasnt got to the school of their choice the repairs for my house have not been done that kind of thing so on an individual level people might ring you to say that hasnt been done and as a councillor you have an access to the various departments in the council which ordinary non-elected persons do not have so you might be able to speed up the process you might not but you do have an access and so its on that level first of all

then there are lots of meetings locally whether they be residents meetings when residents have a chance to get together to meet officers and say what hasnt council officers that is to say what has or hasnt been done

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015 writing activity:

1. Write about what you have learned so far.
2. Describe the person(s) and what they do.
3. Try to use some of the key words used by the speaker(s).

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Speaker: 015 Ann Castle

Job: Deputy Mayor of Leeds



Skill

Suggested Activities

Speaking:

Discuss local government in students' home countries and students' ideas of the duties of a Deputy Lord Mayor.

Listening:

Listen for the answers to tutor prepared questions.

Reading:

Look up the students' local council on the internet. Find their councillors. Read about the history of their council.

Writing:

Write to your local councillor about a local issue.

Transcript:

1. **Voiceover:** Leeds City Council spends one billion pounds per year and delivers services to over 700,000 people in Leeds. The council employs 33,000 people. Leeds Civic Hall is where the city councillors meet to discuss important issues. Today, Leeds Thomas Danby college students are going to meet the Deputy Lord Mayor in the Civic Hall. Leeds City Council has 99 councillors.
2. Each councillor is a person voted for in different areas of Leeds. The councillors can speak for the people in the areas they represent. Councillors meet in a council chamber and vote on important issues for the city, such as education, health services and how to improve services for the people of Leeds.

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3. The Council Chamber names all the mayors of the past, down to Thomas Danby, the first mayor of Leeds. Here, a tour guide tells Leeds Thomas Danby students that the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor are also councillors. They have a special position.
4. The Lord Mayor is seen as the head person of all the councillors. He, or she, is Lord Mayor for one year. The Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor represent the city at important events and meet important people from around the world. The students are introduced to the Deputy Lord Mayor, councillor Ann Castle.
5. **Student:** Hello, good morning. We are Thomas Danby Students, nice to meet you. Can I ask you a question please?
6. **Councillor:** Yes certainly.
7. **Student:** How long have you been Deputy Lord Mayor?
8. **Councillor:** Just short of a year. I became Deputy Lord Mayor on the 23rd of May last year and I'll be finishing on the 22nd of May this year.
9. **Student:** Hello, I'm very pleased to meet you. Can I ask you a question?
10. **Councillor:** Certainly.
11. **Student:** So what do you like most about your job?
12. **Councillor:** I think I've enjoyed meeting so many different people during my year of office. I've met people from different community groups, different faith groups and I found out all sorts of things that are happening in the City of Leeds that I had no idea about, all sorts of good things and I think that's what I've enjoyed most about my year.
13. **Student:** Oh you enjoyed it?
14. **Councillor:** Very much indeed.
15. **Student:** OK.
16. **Councillor:** Thank you very much.
17. **Student:** Thank you.
18. **Councillor:** Good morning.
19. **Student:** I'm pleased to meet you. What part of politic do you represent here?
20. **Councillor:** I represent the Conservative Party. There are just 24 of us out of the 99 councillors on Leeds City Council, but we've joined together with the Lib

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Dems, there are 26 of them, and the Green Party to form an alliance in the City of Leeds. So, the 3 parties are running the city at the moment and I feel that it's running very very successfully because we're all working together really really well and I think it's ok.

21. **Student:** For how long you working?
22. **Councillor:** It's two years ago since the alliance was first formed.
23. **Student:** I want to ask you some question about your life story, so what you do about a job?
24. **Councillor:** I work in the financial services industry. If I had been Lord Mayor this year rather than the Deputy, I would have had to have given up my job for the year because the Lord Mayor just does so many engagements, but I just do about 4 or 5 a week, so I managed to keep on my job. My employers grumble sometimes and say, 'Oh, are you off on a civic engagement again?' but I think really that they're quite proud of the fact that I am Deputy Lord Mayor.
25. **Student:** Sure.
26. **Student:** Hello.
27. **Councillor:** Hello.
28. **Student:** What I want to ask, to know, what do you think about is a good citizen?
29. **Councillor:** A good citizen? Well, first of all, I think that a good citizen is somebody who obeys the laws of this country. I think the laws of this country are sensible, they've just been formulated to ensure that everybody, sort of, lives together without a whole load of problems, but I also think that a good citizen gets on well with their neighbours, doesn't do anything that will upset the neighbours, like, sort of, having loud noisy parties and dumping rubbish out on the streets rather than putting it in bins and letting the refuse collection people, team come and collect it. And also probably, tries to get to know their neighbours, tries to be friendly with their neighbours.
30. **Student:** Would you like to be Lord Mayor in the future?
31. **Councillor:** Yes, I would but I don't think I will be. The three political parties take it in turns to choose a Lord Mayor and it's got to be a councillor and I don't want to be on the council forever. At one stage I'd like to leave and do other things and please myself, so.
32. **Student:** OK thank you.

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33. **Student:** Hello councillor, I want to ask you some question. How many people work here and what they are doing?
34. **Councillor:** Oh now, I'm not sure of the precise number of people who work here but I believe Leeds City Council is the biggest employer in the City of Leeds and they do all sorts of jobs. We've got lawyers, we've got people who work in offices, we've got people who empty the bins, we've got people who keep the streets clean, people who maintain buildings, we've got just about every job, we have somebody doing that job in, for Leeds City Council.
35. **Councillor:** Hello.
36. **Student:** What do you like most about Leeds?
37. **Councillor:** Oh, I think the people that live here. I think, what I like about Leeds is that it is a multicultural city. There are people here from all over the world, which makes it a really really nice spicy sort of dish I think, and I think that the people of Leeds are wonderful people I don't think I've met anybody in this city that I haven't liked. So, yes, the people.
38. **Student:** Thank you very much.

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015 Questions: answers at back or visit www.esoluk.co.uk

- 1) At number 2, why do councillors meet in the council chamber?
 - a. to agree how the city should change
 - b. to vote on changes which might effect the city
 - c. so people vote for them
 - d. to see which political party has won

- 2) At number 4, how long does a councillor stay in the job of Lord Mayor?
 - a. 2 years
 - b. 18 months
 - c. 1 year
 - d. until he or she is voted out

- 3) At number 8, what is meant by 'Just short of a year'?
 - a. 11 months
 - b. 10 months
 - c. 50 weeks
 - d. something that lasts less than one year

- 4) At number 12, what is meant by 'faith groups'?
 - a. people who like to join groups
 - b. people who have faith
 - c. people who belong to different religions
 - d. groups of people with no religion

- 5) At number 22, choose a meaning for 'alliance'?
 - a. people all together
 - b. people all separate
 - c. when two people agree with each other
 - d. a formal agreement between groups of people

- 6) At number 24, what is meant by 'Lord Mayor just does so many engagements'?
 - a. has many wives
 - b. does many repairs
 - c. has to go to many public events and meetings
 - d. has many jobs

- 7) At number 24, what is meant by 'my employers grumble sometimes'?
 - a. her employers complain
 - b. her employers are happy

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- c. her employers shout at her
- d. her employers want to sack her

8) At number 24, what is meant by 'a civic engagement'?

- a. a wedding
- b. a public event about the city
- c. a funeral
- d. a public event in a different city

9) At number 29, choose a meaning for 'formulated'?

- a. formatted
- b. ended
- c. finished
- d. created

10) At number 37, what is meant by 'really nice spicy sort of dish'?

- a. a hot curry
- b. interesting food mixed together
- c. a dish which tastes nice
- d. interesting because something is mixed together

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015 listening/reading gapfill:

The words removed below are the key words used most by this speaker.

- Listen to a small section at a time and try to hear the missing words, **or/and**
- read the text and fill in the gaps.
- Interactive gapfill and spelling test at: www.esoluk.co.uk/015.html

Words: *alliance bins chamber civic enjoyed issues multicultural parties represent services streets*

1. Leeds City Council spends one billion pounds per year and delivers [1] _____ to over 700,000 people in Leeds. The council employs 33,000 people. Leeds [2] _____ Hall is where the city councillors meet to discuss important [3] _____. Today, Leeds Thomas Danby college students are going to meet the Deputy Lord Mayor in the [4] _____ Hall. Leeds City Council has 99 councillors.

2. Each councillor is a person voted for in different areas of Leeds. The councillors can speak for the people in the areas they [5] _____. Councillors meet in a council [6] _____ and vote on important [7] _____ for the city, such as education, health [8] _____ and how to improve [9] _____ for the people of Leeds.

3. The Council [10] _____ names all the mayors of the past, down to Thomas Danby, the first mayor of Leeds. Here, a tour guide tells Leeds Thomas Danby students that the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor are also councillors. They have a special position.

4. The Lord Mayor is seen as the head person of all the councillors. He, or she, is Lord Mayor for one year. The Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor [11] _____ the city at important events and meet important people from around the world. The students are introduced to the Deputy Lord Mayor, councillor Ann Castle.

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5. **Student:** Hello, good morning. We are Thomas Danby Students, nice to meet you. Can I ask you a question please?

6. **Councillor:** Yes certainly.

7. **Student:** How long have you been Deputy Lord Mayor?

8. **Councillor:** Just short of a year. I became Deputy Lord Mayor on the 23rd of May last year and I'll be finishing on the 22nd of May this year.

9. **Student:** Hello, I'm very pleased to meet you. Can I ask you a question?

10. **Councillor:** Certainly.

11. **Student:** So what do you like most about your job?

12. **Councillor:** I think I've [12] _____ meeting so many different people during my year of office. I've met people from different community groups, different faith groups and I found out all sorts of things that are happening in the City of Leeds that I had no idea about, all sorts of good things and I think that's what I've [13] _____ most about my year.

13. **Student:** Oh you [14] _____ it?

14. **Councillor:** Very much indeed.

15. **Student:** OK.

16. **Councillor:** Thank you very much.

17. **Student:** Thank you.

2 Parliament

18. **Councillor:** Good morning.

19. **Student:** I'm pleased to meet you. What part of politic do you [15] _____ here?

20. **Councillor:** I [16] _____ the Conservative Party. There are just 24 of us out of the 99 councillors on Leeds City Council, but we've joined together with the Lib Dems, there are 26 of them, and the Green Party to form an [17] _____ in the City of Leeds. So, the 3 [18] _____ are running the city at the moment and I feel that it's running very very successfully because we're all working together really really well and I think it's ok.

21. **Student:** For how long you working?

22. **Councillor:** It's two years ago since the [19] _____ was first formed.

23. **Student:** I want to ask you some question about your life story, so what you do about a job?

24. **Councillor:** I work in the financial [20] _____ industry. If I had been Lord Mayor this year rather than the Deputy, I would have had to have given up my job for the year because the Lord Mayor just does so many engagements, but I just do about 4 or 5 a week, so I managed to keep on my job. My employers grumble sometimes and say, 'Oh, are you off on a [21] _____ engagement again?' but I think really that they're quite proud of the fact that I am Deputy Lord Mayor.

25. **Student:** Sure.

26. **Student:** Hello.

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27. **Councillor:** Hello.

28. **Student:** What I want to ask, to know, what do you think about is a good citizen?

29. **Councillor:** A good citizen? Well, first of all, I think that a good citizen is somebody who obeys the laws of this country. I think the laws of this country are sensible, they've just been formulated to ensure that everybody, sort of, lives together without a whole load of problems, but I also think that a good citizen gets on well with their neighbours, doesn't do anything that will upset the neighbours, like, sort of, having loud noisy [22] _____ and dumping rubbish out on the [23] _____ rather than putting it in [24] _____ and letting the refuse collection people, team come and collect it. And also probably, tries to get to know their neighbours, tries to be friendly with their neighbours.

30. **Student:** Would you like to be Lord Mayor in the future?

31. **Councillor:** Yes, I would but I don't think I will be. The three political [25] _____ take it in turns to choose a Lord Mayor and it's got to be a councillor and I don't want to be on the council forever. At one stage I'd like to leave and do other things and please myself, so.

32. **Student:** OK thank you.

33. **Student:** Hello councillor, I want to ask you some question. How many people work here and what they are doing?

34. **Councillor:** Oh now, I'm not sure of the precise number of people who work here but I believe Leeds City Council is the biggest employer in the City of Leeds and they do all sorts of jobs. We've got lawyers, we've got people who work in offices, we've got people who empty the [26] _____, we've got people

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who keep the [27] _____ clean, people who maintain buildings, we've got just about every job, we have somebody doing that job in, for Leeds City Council.

35. **Councillor:** Hello.

36. **Student:** What do you like most about Leeds?

37. **Councillor:** Oh, I think the people that live here. I think, what I like about Leeds is that it is a [28] _____ city. There are people here from all over the world, which makes it a really really nice spicy sort of dish I think, and I think that the people of Leeds are wonderful people I don't think I've met anybody in this city that I haven't liked. So, yes, the people.

38. **Student:** Thank you very much.

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015 sequencing activity:

Conversation requires the skilful use of a number of language features.

There are two interviews below, two students interviewing the councillor. Try to sequence the two interviews correctly: **Student A** and **Student B**.

1. Read the conversation and underline discourse markers (e.g. okay, yes, well, now, right, so, anyway, uh-huh) and think about the purpose of each one.
2. Underline key words and phrases spoken at the end of one paragraph and repeated by the next speaker.
3. Underline any other turn-taking patterns and conventions.
4. Place the paragraphs in the correct order, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ... **or** cut out and re-sequence.
5. Check answers by watching the video or read the full text.
6. Find a friend and practise speaking aloud the full conversation.

Councillor: Certainly.

Student: So what do you like most about your job?

Councillor: Good morning.

Student: I'm pleased to meet you. What part of politic do you represent here?

Councillor: Very much indeed.

Councillor: I think I've enjoyed meeting so many different people during my year of office. I've met people from different community groups, different faith groups and I found out all sorts of things that are happening in the City of Leeds that I had no idea about, all sorts of good things and I think that's what I've enjoyed most about my year.

Student: Hello, I'm very pleased to meet you. Can I ask you a question?

Student: Oh you enjoyed it?

Student: OK.

Councillor: Thank you very much.

Student: For how long you working?

Student: Thank you.

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Councillor: I represent the Conservative Party. There are just 24 of us out of the 99 councillors on Leeds City Council, but we've joined together with the Lib Dems, there are 26 of them, and the Green Party to form an alliance in the City of Leeds. So, the 3 parties are running the city at the moment and I feel that it's running very very successfully because we're all working together really really well and I think it's ok.

Councillor: It's two years ago since the alliance was first formed.

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015 punctuation activity:

1. Replace all the commas (,) full-stops (.) apostrophes (') question marks (?)
2. When punctuating, underline difficulties where spoken English does not follow the same 'rules' as written English.
3. Replace capital letters where needed.
4. Check your answers by reading the full text.

leeds city council spends one billion pounds per year and delivers services to over 700000 people in leeds the council employs 33000 people leeds civic hall is where the city councillors meet to discuss important issues today leeds thomas danby college students are going to meet the deputy lord mayor in the civic hall leeds city council has 99 councillors each councillor is a person voted for in different areas of leeds the councillors can speak for the people in the areas they represent councillors meet in a council chamber and vote on important issues for the city such as education health services and how to improve services for the people of leeds the council chamber names all the mayors of the past down to thomas danby the first mayor of leeds here a tour guide tells leeds thomas danby students that the lord mayor and deputy lord mayor are also councillors they have a special position the lord mayor is seen as the head person of all the councillors he or she is lord mayor for one year the lord mayor and deputy lord mayor represent the city at important events and meet important people from around the world the students are introduced to the deputy lord mayor councillor ann castle

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015 writing activity:

1. Write about what you have learned so far.
2. Describe the person(s) and what they do.
3. Try to use some of the key words used by the speaker(s).

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Speaker: 016 John Battle

Job: Member of Parliament



Skill

Suggested Activities

Speaking:

Discuss students' ideas of what an MP does and how you become an MP.

Listening:

Answer tutor prepared questions such as 'what does an MP do?'

Reading:

Read about Parliament and Government. Visit Parliament websites. Find your own MP on the internet.

Writing:

Write an e-mail or letter to your MP.

Transcript:

1. **Mary:** OK, so thank you, thank you very much for agreeing to be interviewed, wonderful, so you're an MP. Can you tell us what that means?
2. **John:** Yeah, it's, you're really a representative of the people in one neighbourhood. In Britain there are 650 areas. You put a line on a map and draw a circle round it, so a city like Leeds, nearly a million people, divided up into 8 big circles and one of those circles is called your constituency.
3. You then have an election and how you get elected, usually you're in a political party. You have to ask them to put your name forward and they'll be a lot of people wanting the job so you have a competition to see who's the best candidate.

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4. You stand as a candidate for election, you go to the election and in the system here of course, the one that gets the most votes wins and you go to Parliament. And your job then is to speak for everybody in your neighbourhood regardless of whether they voted for you or not, that's for the next election.
5. **Mary:** So, you say that you represent them. So what does that mean? How do you do that?
6. **John:** Well, it's a job of two ends being an MP. So you have to listen to the people at home where I live right in the heart of that neighbourhood and listen to them at advice surgeries, I mean on Saturdays I will probably see 100, 150 people who come to me with their problems in Armley Library, Bramley Library, the housing office in Wortley, across in the Burley Lodge Centre.
7. So I go round community centres all day, every other Saturday. People come with their problems. They write to me, they ring me up, they e-mail me. When I'm at home on Friday I go round schools and offices and the health service, the police, I go to community groups. I do the same on Saturdays, even on Sunday and on Monday mornings we try and process from all that, what are the challenges to laws and budgets and structures that we're getting wrong.
8. So my job is to get on the train on Monday lunchtime, get down to Parliament and then challenge what's going on at the other end to see if the people in my neighbourhood are getting what they really need and want.
9. **Mary:** What would you say are the biggest problems then?
10. **John:** Well, the challenges originally were unemployment, 18% unemployment in my constituency in the 1980s. When I first was elected in '87, 20 years ago, so unemployment and low pay was another issue.
11. So, I would think the challenge to the government to bring in the minimum wage has made a big difference and unemployment falling has made a big difference, there were challenges on education, and there still are, because one of the things that happens in a neighbourhood like ours is that everyone wants to get out and go beyond the Ring Road.
12. That damages the schools. A third of the people, in my neighbourhood, only live there for less than a year. Now if you imagine a class of 30 kids and a third aren't there for the whole year. How does that affect their exams and their studies?
13. So, we've got to stop this moving out. Now how do you do that making West Leeds a good place for people to live? Improving the schools helps, so a massive campaign when the Labour government came in to improve the primary schools and invest in primary schools. That's happened, but now we need to stabilize the secondary schools so the next move is stabilizing the

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secondary schools so people want to stay here, not only when their kids go through primary school, but for secondary school as well.

14. **Mary:** So, obviously you are hugely committed to this area and you obviously know this area very very well, but I know that you've also been involved with quite a lot of other things on a sort of further scale, if you like, for example, housing.
15. **John:** I went to the council to complain about the disrepair of housing in my own neighbourhood. I remember at the time causing a great fuss in a committee because I spoke when I was in the public gallery and only councillors are allowed to speak.
16. So the Labour Party at that time, I was just a member of the Labour Party, came up to me and said, 'I know you're very young but you seem to be noisy on housing, your best place to speak in the council is to be a councillor. Would you like to be a councillor?' I never dreamt of being a councillor.
17. I remember ringing me dad up who was a great trade union activist, sadly died now but, and I said, 'Dad, they want me to be a councillor' and his response was, 'Well, you're too young for that.' But so was the party. But I did stand, I stood in an area where it wasn't Labour, it was a Liberal seat and again the strategy was community engagement, engage with the people. And I was elected very young on to the council and then, by turn of circumstances, I became in charge of the housing.
18. **Mary:** Lastly then, can you tell us what you think a good citizen is? Or maybe what a good citizen does?
19. **John:** Yes. A good citizen joins in at every level and doesn't back off and doesn't get panicky about politics and gets underneath the radar of the media commentary, may I say, so don't take it all off the television.
20. And I'm really saying, you know, people come to me to train to be councillors for the Labour Party, to do what I did and they step forward and be a councillor and they say, 'Go to John Battle and ask him what should we do.'
21. Is it all my book collection of the history of the Labour Party, Kier Hardy, in 1906 his manifesto, is it the history of what we had in argument, all the clause 4 over the constitution. Is it the arrangements of meetings and the timings, and the acronyms and the GMC and the DRC?
22. No, it's none of that. Two questions: 1. Do you like people? And the second question is: prove it. And I would say, take someone out onto Armley or Bramley Town Street and I'll say, I'll stand on the other side of the road and see if you've got the bottle to go up to someone you've never met in your life before and say hello. You wouldn't know how hard that is in our society now.

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23. You know on the tube, with the terror bombing, it happened for a day after. But people are terrified of even speaking to each other. So what I'm looking for, to be a good citizen are people who will reach out, literally to other people and not be afraid of being called for doing it, that they're you know, a kind of a freak or mad but more to say, saying hello to people could be quite a revolutionary moment but it's becoming quite hard in our culture. Join in and don't be afraid of the process.
24. **Mary:** OK, thank you.

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016 Questions: answers at back or visit www.esoluk.co.uk

- 1) At number 6, what is meant by 'it's a job of two ends being an MP'?
 - a. an MP has two jobs
 - b. an MP gets two salaries
 - c. an MP has to work in London and in their own city
 - d. an MP has two offices

- 2) At number 6, what is meant by 'advice surgeries'?
 - a. a place where people can get surgery
 - b. a place where people can find a doctor
 - c. a place where people can go and ask an MP for help
 - d. a place in a library

- 3) At number 7, what is meant by 'we try and process from all that'?
 - a. we go to London to think about what people tell us
 - b. we write letters about what people tell us
 - c. we complain to the government
 - d. we think about what people say and how we can make changes to help them

- 4) At number 15, what is meant by 'causing a great fuss'?
 - a. making other people angry or surprised
 - b. making other people happy
 - c. shouting at other people
 - d. talking when you should be quiet

- 5) At number 15, what is meant by a 'public gallery'?
 - a. a place where you can see paintings
 - b. a public place in a neighbourhood
 - c. where members of the public can hear councillors talking
 - d. a committee room

- 6) At number 16, what is meant by 'seem to be noisy on housing'?
 - a. someone who makes a lot of noise
 - b. have a lot to say about something, e.g. housing problems
 - c. someone who shouts a lot
 - d. houses which are very noisy

- 7) At number 17, what is meant by 'the strategy was community engagement'?
 - a. trying to help people by focussing on the community and local people

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- b. trying to help people by living in the community
- c. trying to help people by getting them to vote for you

8) At number 17, what is meant by 'by turn of circumstances'?

- a. something that changes people
- b. something that turns people into MPs
- c. something happens because of different influences
- d. something happens because you planned it

9) At number 19, what is meant by 'gets underneath the radar of the media'?

- a. someone who reads newspapers
- b. someone who does not believe everything the newspapers says
- c. someone who watches a lot of television

10) At number 22, what is meant by 'see if you've got the bottle'?

- a. see if people give you a bottle
- b. giving people a bottle as a gift before saying hello
- c. crossing the road safely
- d. see if you are brave enough

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016 listening/reading gapfill:

The words removed below are the key words used most by this speaker.

- Listen to a small section at a time and try to hear the missing words, **or/and**
- read the text and fill in the gaps.
- Interactive gapfill and spelling test at: www.esoluk.co.uk/016.html

Words: *candidate challenge challenges circles citizen constituency
elected election housing parliament ring secondary
unemployment*

1. **Mary:** OK, so thank you, thank you very much for agreeing to be interviewed, wonderful, so you're an MP. Can you tell us what that means?

2. **John:** Yeah, it's, you're really a representative of the people in one neighbourhood. In Britain there are 650 areas. You put a line on a map and draw a circle round it, so a city like Leeds, nearly a million people, divided up into 8 big [1] _____ and one of those [2] _____ is called your [3] _____.

3. You then have an [4] _____ and how you get [5] _____, usually you're in a political party. You have to ask them to put your name forward and they'll be a lot of people wanting the job so you have a competition to see who's the best [6] _____.

4. You stand as a [7] _____ for [8] _____, you go to the [9] _____ and in the system here of course, the one that gets the most votes wins and you go to [10] _____. And your job then is to speak for everybody in your neighbourhood regardless of whether they voted for you or not, that's for the next [11] _____.

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2 Parliament

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you then have an election and how you get elected usually youre in a political party you have to ask them to put your name forward and theyll be a lot of people wanting the job so you have a competition to see whos the best candidate

you stand as a candidate for election you go to the election and in the system here of course the one that gets the most votes wins and you go to parliament and your job then is to speak for everybody in your neighbourhood regardless of whether they voted for you or not thats for the next election

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Answer key to questions

014: 1) c 2) b 3) c 4) c 5) b 6) d 7) b 8) a 9) c 10) c

015: 1) b 2) c 3) d 4) c 5) d 6) c 7) a 8) b 9) d 10) d

016: 1) c 2) c 3) d 4) a 5) c 6) b 7) a 8) c 9) b 10) d

Interviewers: Mary Clayton and Wendy Godden

Filming, editing, web design: Stephen Woulds

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