Learning Activity

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Establishing Causal Connections Through the October Crisis

Student Booklet

Name: _____

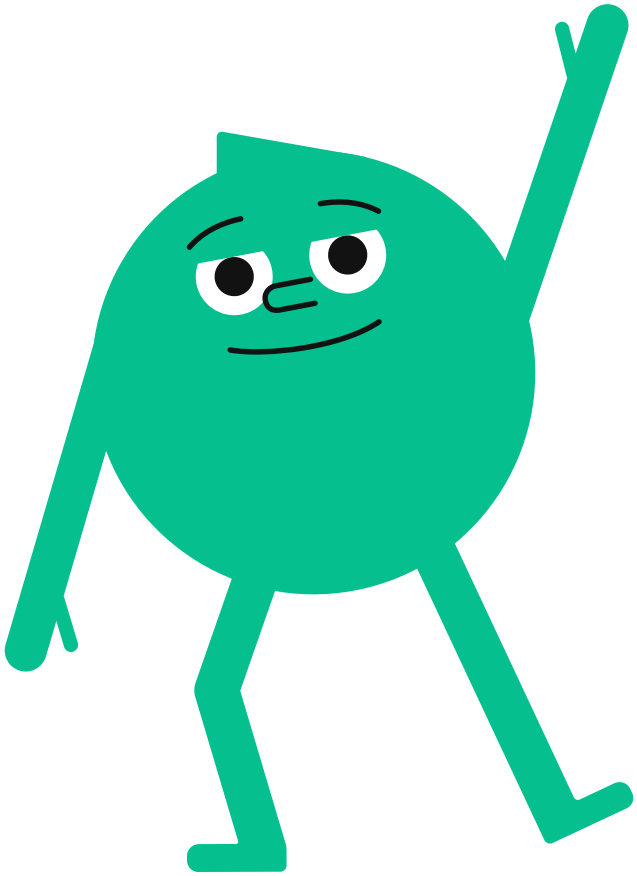
Group: _____

Date: _____

This workbook helps you explore the October Crisis to better understand its key events.

In it, you'll find:

- A timeline to track the events
- Two exercises based on document analysis to establish causal connections and gain a better understanding of the impacts of the October Crisis.



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Timeline of the October Crisis

The Main Events of the October Crisis

July 12, 1963
A bomb blows up the statue of Queen Victoria in Quebec City.

October 5, 1970
The *Libération* Cell of the FLQ kidnaps British diplomat James Cross.

October 8, 1970
The FLQ's manifesto is read on-air on Radio-Canada.

October 10, 1970
The FLQ's *Chénier* Cell kidnaps Cabinet Minister Pierre Laporte.

October 16, 1970
P. E. Trudeau's federal government invokes the War Measures Act at Robert Bourassa's request.

October 17, 1970
Pierre Laporte's body is discovered.

December 3, 1970
The FLQ releases James Cross. In exchange for his release, all members of the *Libération* Cell are allowed to leave Canada and go to Cuba.

December 28, 1970
Three members of the *Chénier* Cell are arrested. Along with a fourth member, they are accused of the kidnapping and murder of Pierre Laporte.

The FLQ bombs various locations in Quebec.
(1963-1970)

Things to Remember

The ***Front de libération du Québec*** **(FLQ)** was a movement that advocated for Quebec's independence and sought to end Anglophone influence and domination in the province. Between 1963 and 1970, extremist members of the group resorted to violent methods to advance their cause, which ultimately led to the events of the October Crisis in 1970.



The **War Measures Act** is a law enacted by the Canadian government in 1914. It grants the government full powers in times of war or during a state of emergency in order to maintain public order. During the October Crisis, it was used to restrict citizens' rights and enable the military and police to arrest citizens without a warrant. It was also used to censor the media.



The **death of Quebec cabinet minister Pierre Laporte** sent shockwaves throughout Quebec and **support for the FLQ quickly plummeted**.



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Question 1

Using documents 1, 2, and 3, explain how the events of the October Crisis influenced public support for the *Front de libération du Québec* (FLQ).

Answer the question by identifying the elements and establishing connections between them.

- The government's response to the FLQ's demands
- The FLQ's response
- The population's response

Answer:

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Question 2

Using documents 4, 5, and 6, explain how the FLQ's actions affected the rights of Quebecers during the October Crisis.

Answer the question by identifying the elements and establishing connections between them.

- An FLQ action
- The enactment of a special law
- Impact on the population

Answer:

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Documents

Document 1

"Montreal (PC) — Just minutes after the government refused to release political prisoners in exchange for a British diplomat, a group of masked men kidnapped one of the most prominent ministers in the Quebec cabinet."

MONTREAL (PC) — Quelques minutes après le refus gouvernemental de libérer des prisonniers politiques en échange d'un diplomate britannique, un groupe d'hommes masqués enlevait l'un des plus éminents ministres du cabinet québecois.

Source: (n.a). (1970, October 18). Appel déchirant du ministre Laporte au premier ministre Bourassa. Tu peux décider de ma vie ou de ma mort. *Le nouvelliste*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/3199455. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

Document 2

"Quebec's Minister of Labour and Immigration, Mr. Pierre Laporte, 49, was found dead early Sunday morning. He had been kidnapped by terrorists on October 10, outside his home in Saint-Lambert."

MONTREAL (PC) — Le ministre du Travail et de l'Immigration du Québec, M. Pierre Laporte, âgé de 49 ans, a été trouvé mort, tôt dimanche matin. Il avait été enlevé par des terroristes le 10 octobre, devant sa résidence à Saint-Lambert.

Source: (n.a). (1970, October 19). Pierre Laporte retrouvé assassiné. *La voix de l'Est*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4527393. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

Document 3

"Despite her young age, Miss Monette is well aware of current events. 'Mr. Laporte's death was cruel and inhumane. What the FLQ is doing today will have long-lasting repercussions, especially for those who democratically sought Quebec's independence.'"

MLLE FRANCINE MONETTE, AGEE DE 13 ANS, ETUDIANTE DE CHICOUTIMI

Malgré son jeune âge, Mlle Monette est bien consciente des événements actuels. "La mort



de M. Laporte est cruelle et inhumaine. Ce que le FLQ fait aujourd'hui aura des répercussions pour longtemps, surtout pour ceux qui voulaient démocratiquement l'indépendance du Québec.

Source: Bergeron, G. and Vaillancourt, C. (1970, October 19). Mort de Laporte : une population régionale terrifiée et inquiète. *Le soleil, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/3111324. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

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Document 4

"Mr. Pierre Laporte, Minister of Labour in the Bourassa cabinet, was kidnapped last night at 6:12 p.m., thirty minutes after the governments of Quebec and Canada refused to release the political prisoners in exchange for the release of British diplomat James Cross.

The minister was playing ball on the street with some children when a car suddenly pulled up beside him and two masked men wearing gloves and armed with submachine guns got out and forced him into the car. One of the boys who was playing with the minister described the car: a turquoise Chevrolet with licence plate number 9J-2420."

Source: (n.a). (1970, October 11). Réponse du FLQ au gouvernement. Pierre Laporte kidnappé. *Québec-presse*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4345845. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

M. Pierre Laporte, ministre du Travail dans le cabinet Bourassa, a été kidnappé hier soir à 6h.12, trente minutes après le refus du gouvernement du Québec et du Canada de libérer les prisonniers politiques en échange du diplomate anglais James Cross.

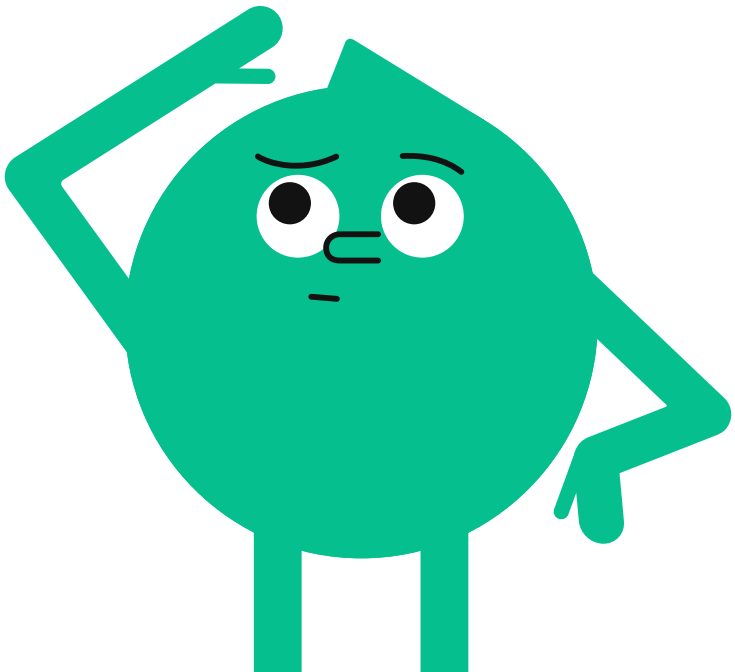
Le ministre jouait au ballon dans la rue avec des enfants quand une voiture a stoppé brusquement à ses côtés, deux hommes masqués, gantés et armés de mitraillettes en sont descendus et l'ont forcé à monter dans la voiture. Un des garçons qui jouaient avec le ministre a donné un signalement de la voiture: une Chevrolet turquoise immatriculé 9J-2420.

Document 5

"At 4 a.m. on Friday, the War Measures Act was declared throughout Canada. […] The deadline set in the ultimatum has long since passed, and there has been no further word from the cells that abducted Mr. Cross and Mr. Laporte."

Source: (n.a). (1970, October 25). Les ravisseurs de Pierre Laporte avaient-ils vraiment l'intention de le rendre sain et sauf?. *Le petit journal. Cahier A*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4251850. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

Vendredi à 4 heures du matin, la loi sur les mesures de guerre est décrétée dans tout le Canada. Entre 4 heures et 7 heures, la police et l'armée perquisitionnent et arrêtent plusieurs centaines de suspects, de sympathisants du FLQ, de membres du PQ, du FRAP. On redoute le pire pour les otages. Le délai de l'ultimatum est depuis longtemps expiré et on n'a plus de nouvelles des cellules qui ont enlevé MM. Cross et Laporte.



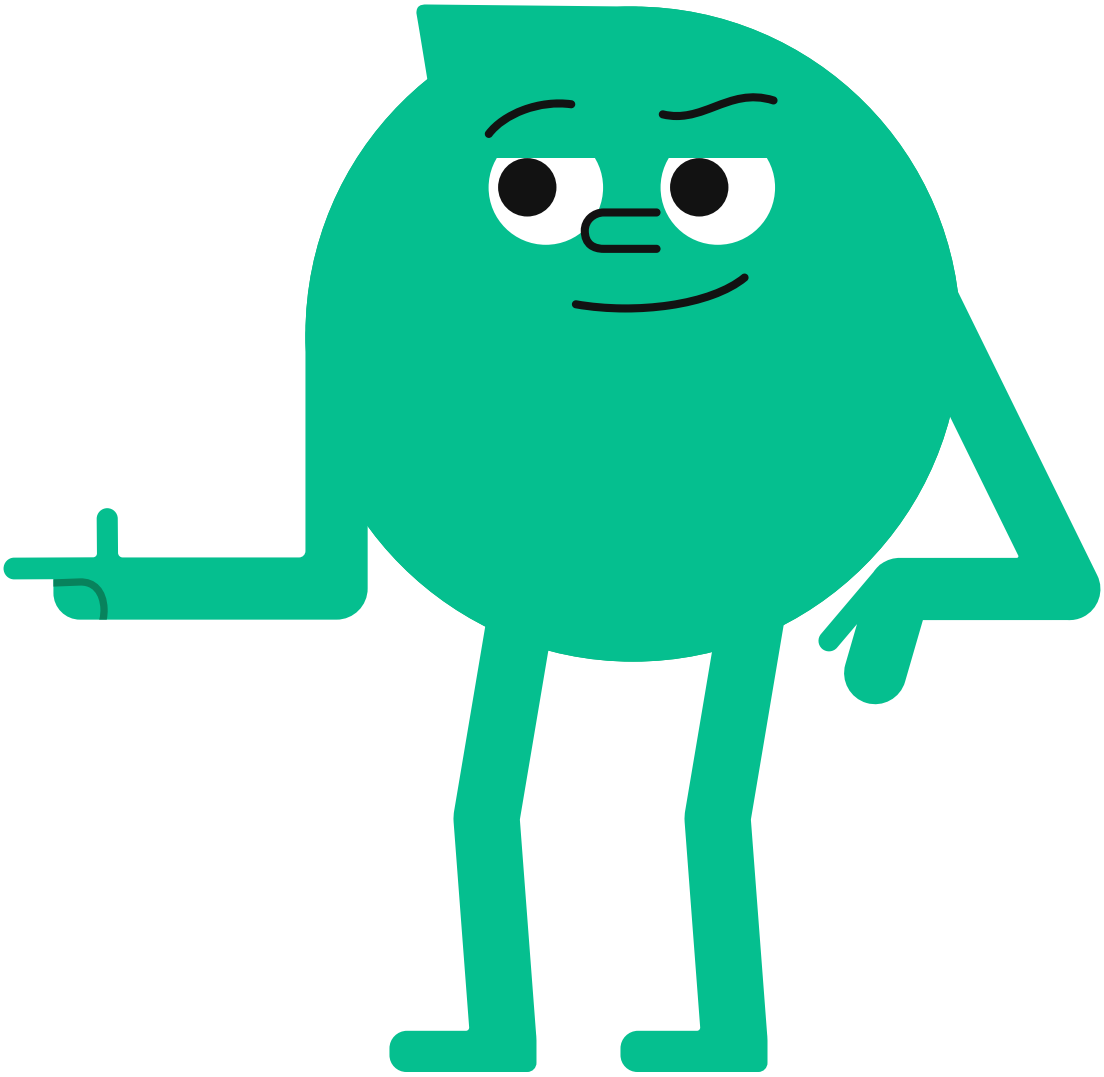
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Document 6

"Professionals, journalists, writers, artists, professors, labour union members, federal and provincial civil servants, leaders of social organizations, as well as numerous university and CEGEP students are among the 319 detainees the Sûreté du Québec had in custody last night, following some 626 searches carried out as part of the police operation conducted under the War Measures Act.
These raids will continue; many more arrests are expected, and alleged FLQ militants are being actively sought."

Source: Hardy, J.-L. (1970, October 19). Tous les milieux sont touchés. Plus de 300 personnes ont été mises en arrestation au Québec. [All areas were affected. More than 300 people were arrested in Quebec.] (translated by Alloprof). *Le soleil, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean*. https://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/3111324. - Translation provided by Alloprof.

Des professionnels, des journalistes, des écrivains, des artistes, des professeurs, des membres de syndicats ouvriers, des fonctionnaires fédéraux et provinciaux, des dirigeants de groupements sociaux ainsi que de nombreux étudiants d'universités et de Cegep sont au nombre des 319 détenus que la Sûreté du Québec comptait, hier soir à la suite des quelque 626 perquisitions faites dans le cadre de l'opération policière entreprise en vertu de la loi des mesures de guerre. Ces perquisitions se poursuivront, de nombreuses autres arrestations sont prévues et des prétendus militants du FLQ sont activement recherchés.



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