

Follow the offices. Explain the result.

The storm has passed. Residents still need relief. Learn who gets executive office, who keeps it, and who can pass policy. These are different questions.

New student setup uses the full route: three rulebook circuits, all nine countries with two moves each, cross-country comparison, three tradeoffs, research and six exit checks. The Midnight Session is a repeatable strategy lab. Core is available only for legacy records or an instructor-desk override.

Know the cast

Actor	Job in the game
Residents / voters	Choose representatives and, where the rule provides, a President. Relief delivery matters beyond office survival.
Assembly / legislature	Debates and votes on laws. Its confidence power, if any, targets specified executive offices.
Government / cabinet	The executive team directing policy. It is not the whole state or the elected assembly.
PM / Chancellor / premier	A head of government. Read selection and survival rules; a title alone is insufficient.
President / head of state	Powers differ. A President may be Assembly-elected, separately elected, ceremonial, or part of a dual executive.

Use one explanation scaffold

Cast: name the offices and voters. **Office:** identify the selected or challenged post. **Rule:** name the procedure and its target. **Condition:** apply the threshold, clock or other requirement. **Result:** state who leaves, who stays, what happens to the bill, and whether an election follows.

Start, pause, return

Optional entry checks: before teaching or practice, answer six rule cards for a starting record. Explain the result, cite the decisive clause, choose confidence 0-3 and report help. Entry seals automatically when any teaching or practice begins; unfinished entry work cannot be added later. A missing or partial baseline is not zero.

Plan three resumable sessions: models; country cases; synthesis, research and checks. Pause after a circuit or country pair. Progress saves in this browser; there is no countdown. This is a planning sequence, not a tested duration. Reading and discussion may need more time; no classroom learning effect has been established.

Two kinds of comparison.

1. The matched circuits

Identify executive origin. Build support within six fictional commitment slots. A PM needs 51 seats for this model's investiture; presidential office does not. A confidence-support agreement need not mean every supporting party takes cabinet seats.

Then predict the fixed **48-52 ordinary bill defeat** and the separate **58-42 formal challenge**. Your earlier bargain does not determine those later roll-calls. They are held constant to reveal how the survival rule changes the result. Resolve the outcome and explain which offices remain.

Ordinary bill: this exercise attaches no confidence condition. Losing it blocks policy without automatic removal.

Formal motion: read its target and legal effect. No confidence, ordinary criticism, and exceptional removal are different procedures.

2. The Midnight Session

Choose a rulebook, allies, relief priority and up to three concession tokens. A reserve can matter after the delivery dispute. The ledger displays how preferences, pledges and concessions recruit **bill votes**. The continuing agreement supplies **confidence seats**. Those totals can differ.

Predict a result before launching. Replay while changing one input, then explain why it changes bill support, confidence support, or both. The comparison holds your final political support constant across the three rulebooks, assuming an executive is already in office.

Invented assumptions: party preferences, vote blocs, commitment slots, token costs and the least-satisfied-party dispute are teaching rules. The model also assumes every seat outside continuing confidence support votes for the formal challenge. Real legislators may abstain, tolerate a cabinet, or change behavior under different institutions. These calculations are not country forecasts.

3. Nine countries, eighteen moves

Resolve an incident, then a twist that changes the office, procedure, denominator or clock. Read the supplied rule clause and primary source, not only the family label. Complete both moves, then use the office-rule-condition-result scaffold in a teach-back.

Keep all nine: United Kingdom, Germany, South Africa, United States, Brazil, Chile, France, Portugal and Taiwan. Confidence support differs from cabinet membership; appointment differs from survival. Parliamentary cabinets can be minorities. Semi-presidential appointment, dismissal and dissolution powers vary.

Turn a decision into evidence.

Compare, then defend a tradeoff

Use country evidence to complicate a simple rule. Compare UK confidence support with German successor election; France's bill-confidence link with Taiwan's appointment and deadlines; and ordinary criticism with exceptional removal in the United States or Chile.

For each tradeoff, name a beneficiary, a cost bearer and a condition under which your choice could fail. Explain how changing that condition changes your judgment. Your political preference is not graded. Keeping office does not by itself deliver relief.

Open a research question

Claim: If X changes, a distinct Y becomes more or less likely because [mechanism].

Measure: name units, periods and observable indicators.

Comparison: explain which cases or periods you would compare and why.

Rival: show how another process could produce the same pattern.

Challenge: name evidence that would make you revise the claim.

Separate cabinet replacement, days to a successor, policy delay and democratic survival. Nine selected dossiers and invented game runs do not establish a country-level causal effect. Party discipline, electoral rules, crisis severity, norms and history may change what institutions do.

The six exit checks

Exit opens only after you submit the final research proposal. New records require six open responses before passport completion. Read each rule card; save an explanation, decisive clause, confidence **0 guessing / 1 uncertain / 2 fairly sure / 3 very sure**, and help: **none / reference / discussion / mixed**. Confidence and help are descriptions, not grades.

All six first responses are saved before feedback is opened. If unsure, say what you do not yet know. First responses stay in the record. Up to three later revisions per item explain why you changed or kept the answer. Human criteria guide review; the game does not automatically score understanding or calculate a learning gain. Optional return checks can be used later; if taken immediately, they are immediate transfer, not evidence of retention.

What your report means

Prediction points record supported choices and repairs. Word counts record that text exists. Stamps record completed practice. Your explanations and check responses need human assessment. An older record without entry checks has no baseline; do not infer an entry score from its later work.

Use **Tools + help** to download a progress backup or a readable report, or print/save the report as PDF. Submit it through your course system yourself. Saves do not synchronize across browsers or devices. Use Tab and Enter/Space; no dragging, speed, sound or countdown is required.