

The Shared Country Teaching Script

Opening and priorities

00:00–00:15 Slide 1 The Shared Country

Your table is Aven, a country with several governments. Today, track who has authority and who bears the costs.

00:15–00:35 Slide 2 Your table is one country

Choose National, Coast, Plain and Ridge, one person per government. A fifth person is the Residents' Advocate; a sixth is the Constitution Clerk. Everyone writes. Only the four governments vote. Add your name and role.

00:35–00:50 Unnumbered opening slide Are elections enough

Before reading, answer the opening question. Both levels are elected, but National can withdraw every regional power by ordinary law. Are elections enough? You have fifteen seconds to circle Yes, No or Unsure.

01:05–01:20 Slide 3 Your country and your role

Read Aven's shared briefing and your own role paragraph. Take two quiet minutes. What priority can your role defend, and which fact makes it important?

03:20–04:10 Slide 4 The starting constitution

Aven already has constitutionally protected national and regional authority. Regions control curricula and clinics. National controls foreign affairs and teacher licensing. Regional delegates also participate in national lawmaking through the Council of Regions. Equal citizenship, fair review and independent appeals bind both levels. What makes regional authority more secure than permission National could withdraw whenever it wants? Ordinary National law cannot remove these protected powers.

04:10–04:35 Slide 5 Changing the rules

Protected does not mean unchangeable. In this game, a constitutional change needs National and at least two regions to choose the same change. Otherwise the current rule stays. This is our fictional convention's agreement rule, not a universal rule for every federation.

04:35–04:45 Unnumbered opening slide Why protect regional power

Imagine National wants to take over regional school decisions. Why might regions want constitutional protection? Tell a neighbor one reason.

05:00–05:15 Unnumbered opening slide Why protect regional power

What could a region lose if National could take that power back whenever they disagreed? Protection gives regional decisions some security.

05:15–05:30 Slide 6 A Your first priority

In A, write what your role wants to protect and why it matters. Use a fact from your briefing. Short phrases are enough. Take sixty seconds on your own.

06:30–07:00 Slide 6 A Your first priority

Tell a neighbor your priority and reason. What depends on the thing you want to protect? Does your reason fit your role's circumstances?

B River authority

07:00–07:30 Slide 7 B The river rule

First choose who should make binding river decisions. Read the three options. Regional is the current rule, and regions may cooperate voluntarily under it. Regional crews operate the gates under every option; we are changing who decides. In B, circle your preferred rule and give one reason about authority. Seventy-five seconds on your own.

08:45–09:05 Slide 7 B The river rule

Everyone gets one turn: National, Coast, Plain, Ridge, then the advisers. Use twenty seconds each at four people, sixteen at five, thirteen at six. National, cue the handoffs. Advisers speak but do not vote.

09:05–10:25 Slide 7 B The river rule

Your eighty seconds start now.

10:25–11:00 Slide 7 B The river rule

Now bargain. Which change could obtain the required agreement? Whose consent does your proposal require?

11:00–11:20 Slide 7 B The river rule

Governments, on three show one, two or three fingers for one menu option. A change needs National and at least two regions choosing that same change. Otherwise Regional stays. One final ballot. One, two, three.

11:20–12:10 Slide 7 B The river rule

Read the four government choices back inside your table. Record them in B, using a dash for no valid signal. Circle the actual rule. Your personal preference can differ from the table's result.

12:10–13:00 Slide 7 B The river rule

One table: what were your four choices, and which rule took effect? Did National and at least two regions choose the same change? Support split between different changes is not agreement on one change. Your recorded rule now governs the flood decision.

C The flood decision

13:00–13:40 Slide 8 C The flood forecast

Read the consequences of Open and Hold. Evacuation removes immediate injury risk, but someone still bears a property loss. What is wrong with saying that eighty is larger than twenty, so the fair answer is automatic? Homes and farm plots are different losses. The figures do not tell us everything about their value.

13:40–14:00 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

In C, choose the action you prefer, give a reason, and identify who can authorize it under your actual river rule. A preference is not permission to impose it. Take ninety seconds on your own.

15:30–15:40 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

Use the same speaking order and short turns. Everyone gives a reason. You have eighty seconds.

15:40–17:00 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

Begin.

17:00–17:30 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

Use your recorded B rule. Under National, only National signals. Under Regional, only Plain. Under Joint, all four governments signal. Thumbs up is Open; down is Hold. Joint Open requires National up and at least two regions up. No authorized Open means Hold. One, two, three.

17:30–18:20 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

Record the actual action and who bears its stated cost. Keep the river rule you already adopted.

18:20–19:00 Slide 9 C Your recorded rule

Who needed to agree, and did that agreement occur? Could a Regional table voluntarily Open? Yes, if Plain agrees. Under Joint, National and two other regions could authorize Open over Plain's objection. The rule identifies who may decide; it does not choose the action for them.

D Clinic resources and control

19:00–19:30 Slide 10 D The clinic budget

Equal populations and similar basic clinic needs, but the same tax rate raises eight, five and two units because tax bases differ. Five is a basic-budget benchmark, not a legal minimum or a care guarantee. What rules out saying Ridge simply is not trying as hard? The tax rate is the same.

19:30–20:00 Slide 11 D Money and control

Local keeps locally raised funds. Pool and Equalize both give five units each, but staffing authority differs. Equalize binds the three-unit Coast-to-Ridge transfer; no later donor permission is needed. The total stays fifteen, with no extra money or side deals. Choose a package in D and give one reason. Seventy-five seconds on your own.

21:15–21:25 Slide 11 D Money and control

Use the same speaking order and short turns. Everyone explains a tradeoff. Eighty seconds.

21:25–22:45 Slide 11 D Money and control

Begin.

22:45–23:10 Slide 11 D Money and control

Now bargain. Are you protecting locally raised revenue, a common basic-budget goal, regional control, or National coordination? Which cost are you prepared to accept?

23:10–23:30 Slide 11 D Money and control

Governments, show one finger for Local, two for Pool, three for Equalize. A change needs National and at least two regions choosing the same package. Otherwise Local stays. Coast has no extra veto. One, two, three.

23:30–24:25 Slide 11 D Money and control

Record your actual package and who controls budgets and staffing. Add one brief benefit and why, and one cost and why. Explain the package your table actually adopted.

24:25–25:00 Slide 11 D Money and control

Pool and Equalize allocate the same funds. What constitutional question is still different? Who controls budgets and staffing. Which package leaves Ridge three below the benchmark? Local. Equal budgets do not prove equal care. Regional clinics deliver under every package.

E Licensing authority and fair assessment

25:00–25:35 Slide 12 E Ridge and Mina

Ridge wants protected licensing power because National's exam fits Ridge-language training poorly. Mina belongs to Ridge's Plain-speaking minority, trained in Plain, and wants to teach in Ridge. What do we actually know about her qualifications? Their adequacy is unknown. Regional autonomy and fair treatment within a region are separate concerns.

25:35–26:00 Slide 13 E Question one

In E, recommend a licensing arrangement, identify Mina's office under it, and name the other regions gaining authority under All regions. Use the table. Take two minutes on your own. This is a recommendation: no vote is held and no law changes here.

28:00–28:20 Slide 13 E Question one

Compare your authority maps with a neighbor. Which office follows from each recommendation?

28:20–28:50 Slide 13 E Question one

Would Mina's office differ between Ridge only and All regions? It is Ridge under both. Under All regions, who else gains licensing authority? Coast and Plain. Mina's office alone does not tell us how widely licensing power has been decentralized. Check your three E answers.

28:50–29:05 Slide 14 E Question two

Your recommended office now receives Mina's application. How should it check her qualifications fairly? Discuss one concrete action with a neighbor and why it helps.

29:20–29:40 Slide 14 E Question two

Give us an action. What would it establish?

29:40–30:00 Slide 14 E Question two

For example, compare her Plain training with published teaching requirements, so relevant outside training receives consistent consideration. Fair review, written reasons and independent appeal bind every office. We cannot promise a licence or job without knowing whether she meets the requirements.

Federalism and the real cases

30:00–31:00 Slide 15 Federalism

Federalism combines constitutionally protected national and regional authority with regional participation in common government. Protected regional curriculum authority is self-rule. Guaranteed regional delegates in the Council are shared rule. Why is a regional clinic simply doing work not enough evidence? We still need to know who holds protected policy authority. Delegated power can be withdrawn by ordinary National law. Giving National one field does not erase Aven's remaining protected regional powers.

31:00–32:00 Slide 16 Symmetric and asymmetric powers

Symmetric means regions have the same formal powers. Asymmetric means a region has a different formal power. Which power would differ under Ridge only? Teacher licensing. All regions transfers that power equally, so it is symmetric decentralization. Do unequal clinic funds alone establish constitutional asymmetry? No. Differences in money are not automatically differences in formal powers.

32:00–34:00 Slide 17 Canada and India

These are comparisons, not copies of Aven. Canada's provinces have constitutional education powers, with qualifications, alongside specified minority-language schooling rights. India's Article 371A gives Nagaland's legislature a role before parliamentary laws on specified Naga practices, customary law and related justice, and land and resources apply there. That is not a veto over every national law. Which authority is protected, and whose participation matters? Neither example means regional independence. Now use the same distinctions in a new fictional country.

F Pelar

34:00–34:20 Slide 18 F Pelar

In F, classify the current authority and the reform, giving a decisive case fact for each. In the reform passage, underline one self-rule fact and box one shared-rule fact. Work alone for three minutes. Use the distinctions we just discussed.

37:20–38:05 Slide 18 F Pelar

Compare with a neighbor. Which fact supports each classification? Explain the evidence, rather than just checking whether you chose the same word.

38:05–38:15 Slide 18 F Pelar

Let's check the distinctions together.

38:15–38:55 Slide 19 F The constitutional difference

Current authority is delegated: ordinary law can withdraw the clinic powers. The reform is asymmetric because only North gains protected fishing authority. Protected island health policy is self-rule. Guaranteed island delegates in common lawmaking are shared rule. What makes their participation part of common government? They have guaranteed seats in the common lawmaking council, not merely elected local councils.

38:55–39:20 Slide 19 F The constitutional difference

Check your F classifications and explanations. Revise any answer that needs a different fact or a clearer reason.

39:20–39:45 Slide 19 F The constitutional difference

Return to the opening question. Were regional elections enough when National could withdraw every regional power by ordinary law? No. Elections choose officeholders. They do not, by themselves, protect regional authority.

39:45–40:00 Slide 19 F The constitutional difference

Our test is more than who does the work. Ask whose authority is protected, who joins common government, and what agreement a change requires.

Debrief and final finding

40:00–41:20 Slide 20 Your country's tradeoffs

Let's hear one actual river result. Which rule governed it? Who could authorize the action, whose agreement was required, and who bore a cost? What part of the rule made that result possible?

41:20–42:20 Slide 20 Your country's tradeoffs

Now one actual clinic package. Who gained resources or lost control? Pool and Equalize have the same allocation: what does their difference tell us? A rule can redistribute resources while leaving regional control, or transfer control to National.

42:20–43:00 Slide 20 Your country's tradeoffs

Which residents might regional power overlook? Remember Mina. Regional autonomy does not remove the need for fair treatment within a region. Our examples illustrate how rules work; different table outcomes do not prove one arrangement always works better.

43:00–43:30 Slide 21 G Your final finding

Complete G on your own. Use an actual river rule or clinic package, not the licensing recommendation. Name a benefit and a cost. Make at least one because explain who could authorize action or control budgets and staffing. You may disagree with your table. Write for two minutes.

45:30–46:00 Slide 21 G Your final finding

Check that your name is on both response pages. Pass both response pages to me. You can keep the country briefing.

46:00–46:30 Slide 21 Closing

Federalism protects authority at more than one level and connects regions to common government. Your decisions showed how the allocation of power shapes whose agreement matters, which resources move, and who bears a cost.