

Political role of Trade Unions.

Assessment Task

The political role of trade unions (Class activity) (LO1 AS4)

Discuss the political role of trade unions. Study the information on debating skills below. Hold a class debate about the statement: 'Trade unions should play a political role in South Africa today'. Assess your own performance.

Debating skills:

- Debating takes place between two teams. One team defends the statement and the other team opposes it.
- The statement for this debate is: 'Trade unions should play a political role in South Africa today'.
- Each team should choose a team captain, who will lead the team.
- Each team should choose two or three additional speakers per team.
- Choose a secretary, who will keep minutes of the proceedings and note down the main points each team makes in defense of or opposition to the statement.
- Choose a time-keeper, who will be responsible for keeping every person from exceeding the time allocated for their speech.
- The team captain of the defending team will speak first.
- The length of the team captains' speeches should be limited to two minutes.
- The team captain from the opposing team will speak second.
- The rest of the speakers will then follow: one from the defending team and one from the opposing team, until all the speakers have spoken.
- The additional speakers each have one minute of speaking time.

Self-assessment checklist

Criteria	Yes	No
I have a good grasp of the role trade unions play in the economy.		
I am able to critically assess the actions of trade unions.		
I can sequence arguments in a logical format.		
I am a good team player.		
I can express my views with confidence.		
I respect the view of others even though they might differ from my views.		
I made a valuable contribution to the debate.		

