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Activity 9:
Questioning Political Quotes
Why Did the Mayoral Candidate Say That?

When making a decision on who to vote for in an election, it is important to question what the candidate is saying during the political campaign in order to fully understand his or her political agenda. Questioning the quotations of candidates helps to uncover their true meaning and allows citizens to make inferences that help us understand the candidate's intentions.

In this activity, you are being challenged to analyze the quotations of candidates who are running for mayor in the City of Toronto and arrive at conclusions about both their intentions and their positions on the issues.

Your tasks are to:

1. **Choose a mayoral candidate** whose interviews or speeches you wish to analyze. You should be able to find information on the web regarding the 2010 Toronto Municipal Election, or this activity will have to be used in an election year.

2. Choose one **quote** you wish to **analyze** and utilize the Mayoral Candidate Questionable Quotes graphic organizer to assist you with your inquiry.

Remember: the quotes you select can be either negative or positive!

Researched Quotes Organizer

Name: _____   Date: _____

Mayoral Candidate's Name: _____
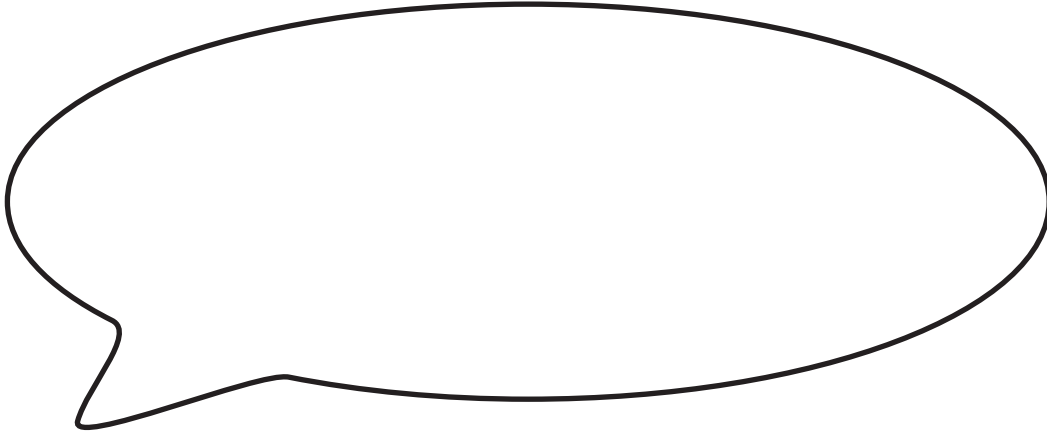
Quote	Source	Notes on Relevance

Mayoral Candidate Questionable Quote

Name: _____   Date:_____

What is your favourite **questionable quote?**

By: _____

Source: _____

1. What do you think this **quotation means?**

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

2. Why did the mayoral candidate say this?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

3. Do you believe the mayoral candidate will commit to this statement once elected? What has this candidate done in the past to make you accept or reject this statement?

_____

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4. Reflection: How has this exercise helped you understand and analyze political agendas and the intentions of candidates? Do you think you are better prepared to make decisions about voting for candidates in future elections? Why

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