

Cell Organelle Campaign

Your group has to run a campaign to get your assigned cell organelle elected as The Most Important Organelle. You will have to argue that without your organelle, the cell and the organism and consequently the world as we know it will collapse. I expect you to understand the details of your organelles. Here's what you have to do:

- You will put up campaign posters and other paraphernalia (with pre-approved permission of the classroom instructor) in the classroom. I am requiring **at least one** poster championing the greatness of your organelle. I suggest more than one poster if you want to win. This should be very visual, think of the iconic Obama Hope poster.
- In addition to your poster, you need to create a campaign flyer that describes how totally awesome your organelle is. Include a catchy graphic on the front, then details as to the structure of the organelle and the function of the organelle. Be sure to relate the structure of the organelle to its function. It is crucial for you to make the connection for your voter about why your organelle is the most important. So tell your voter why your organelle is important for survival of the organism. Can you link that to survival of an ecosystem? The whole entire world? Okay, maybe I'm being dramatic, but that is how campaigns can be! Get into this. Make sure you have references for this pamphlet! APA style for the references only. Use any formatting style you think looks groovy. Other than what I requested, go to town with the pamphlet. Quotes of doctors or other experts? Sounds great. Pictures? Perfect.
- Mudslinging. The fun stuff. You need to run a smear campaign against at least 5 other organelles. Look up what diseases are associated with mutations or malfunctions of their organelles and create some kind of literature against it (poster, pamphlet, fact sheet, T shirt, radio ad, etc) and you have to include it in your campaign speech. You must have a smear campaign against EACH of the 5 other organelles.
- Election Day: Campaign speeches - Please choose one person from the group to perform the speech. You will be performing your speech to the class you have been passing out the pamphlets and posting the posters for. Some of these speeches will also be videotaped. In your speech, you need to convince the voters based on structure and function that your organelle is the most important. You have to try to deflect the smear campaigns that have hit you. Limit the speeches to 5 minutes. I will get the giant hook and remove you from the stage. Your group will provide me with a transcript of the speech on the same day, complete with references in APA formatting. After the speeches, the students will complete a ballot.

The number of votes you get is part of your grade, albeit a smaller percentage. In order to avoid everybody voting for their own and nobody winning, you will be required to vote for your own organelle as well as one other.

Beyond what I have required, you can be as creative as is ethically correct to win this campaign. No threatening or bribing other students, please. But extra posters, T shirts, buttons, stickers, pencils, face paint...I don't know. You come up with the ideas! If you need copies made, I can help, but they will only be in black and white.

Good Luck!

List of organelles:

Nucleus (including
nucleolus,
chromosomes,
chromatin, and
nuclear membrane)

Ribosome

Smooth and Rough endoplasmic reticulum

Cytoskeleton (including cilia, flagella, and
centrioles)

Mitochondria

Chloroplast

Golgi body

Peroxisomes

Lysosomes

Cell Wall

Plasma Membrane (Cell Membrane)

Vacuole (including both animal cell and plant cell
vacuoles)

Intercellular Junctions (plasmodesmata, tight
junctions, and gap junctions)