



# SciMUNC XVII

*JOINT CRISIS COMMITTEE*

# The Hunger Games JCC: The Capitol

BACKGROUND GUIDE

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## Letter from the Dais

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to SciMUNC XVII! We are so happy to have the privilege of being your chairs for the Capitol side of the JCC Hunger Games Committee! My name is Amidala Barta-Zilles, and I am your chair! I am currently a junior at Bronx Science, having been on the Model UN team since my freshman year. I am also on SciMUN's board as the Assistant Novice Director. This is my second time chairing, and it is an absolute honor to be doing it once again. I have such a passion for Model UN; whether two delegates are creatively resolving a pressing issue or spiritedly debating about something insignificant, Model UN is a beautifully fun yet educational community. To me, MUN is the perfect combination of diplomacy, research, and collaboration, and I can't wait to share that experience with you! Thank you for showing interest in this topic, and I look forward to moderating a hopefully productive but engaging discussion.

Hey delegates! My name is Eliana Zaharopoulos and I'm so excited to be your co-chair for this committee! I'm also a current junior and have been on the Model UN team since sophomore year. I've loved being on the team and am looking forward to understanding Model UN more intricately through co-chairing. Amidala and I have worked diligently to create a background guide that is as thought-provoking and interesting as our committee topic. Irrespective of whether you have experience in Model UN or not, we hope that this committee is an entertaining way for you to exercise diplomacy and teamwork while also showcasing your ability to find concrete solutions to the problems presented. Thank you so much for participating in The Hunger Games committee! We look forward to meeting you all and hope you're as excited as we are! Don't hesitate to reach out with any other questions you may have at [amidalab@nycstudents.net](mailto:amidalab@nycstudents.net) and [elianaz5@nycstudents.net](mailto:elianaz5@nycstudents.net).

Sincerely,  
Amidala Barta-Zilles and Eliana Zaharopoulos

P.S. We would love to see some creative Capitol-inspired outfits as long as they adhere to the standards of Western Business Attire!

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## Committee Description

In a crisis committee, you must often have creativity and adaptability to succeed. With its ever-changing and fast-paced environment, delegates must be able to keep up by writing directives, crisis notes, and forming alliances throughout committee sessions. In a crisis, constant changes are being put into play through crisis updates designed by the Dais but dictated by the delegate-determined course of committee. This applies to Joint-Crisis Committees, or JCCs, as well, but the rules become more complicated (and fun). A JCC is made up of two committee rooms encompassed by one general topic. While there are two different rooms, since the same topic is being addressed, updates and the course of committee is driven not by one but *two* cohorts of delegates. For example, if a delegate was to write a note that pertains to the general committee topic, the note would affect *both* committees and the other committee would also be alerted. This supplies committee sessions with incredibly engaging discourse, but presents even more twists and turns than a regular crisis.

Pertaining to this JCC specifically, we are split between two groups: The

Capitol and The Districts. Both committees will be placed during the timeframe of Catching Fire and during the Quarter Quell, dealing with the rebellion. Considering that The Capitol's logical goal would be to maintain their power, status, and wealth, it would be in their best interest to do whatever is in their power to silence revolutionaries and prevent a large-scale rebellion from taking place. On the other hand, The Districts are poor, disadvantaged, and traumatized; they want to escape from the devastating totalitarian regime that is Capitol rule. As a result, they want to rebel and do what they can to gain power and a semblance of control. All in all, this JCC is interconnected but each group is distinct.

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## Background Information

### ***Panem***

The Capitol is the ruling city of Panem, a totalitarian federation and nuclear state established as a result of ecological catastrophes and apocalyptic state of global conflict. The Capitol houses Panem's most elite society. Wealth and power are present in abundance amongst these privileged citizens; corruption and darkness, however, lurk deep beneath this superficial surface. The Capitol is surrounded by thirteen districts, twelve of which are still active and one of which is thought to be obsolete: obliterated by Capitol forces during the time of uprisings decades earlier.

Each district revolves around producing a certain subset of goods; for example, District 1 provides luxury items to the Capitol, while District 12 is tailored for coal mining. Despite districts generating advanced technology and immense wealth, the oppressive government tightly regulates and controls all of the goods and services they offer. Although the citizens are producing the goods, they do not get unconditional access to them, essentially making them slaves to the Capitol. Overall,

the Capitol and its citizens reap the full benefits of Panem's vast resources, largely at the expense and detriment to the districts and their citizens. The totalitarian nature of the Capitol and the power imbalance present within this dystopian society breeds resentment and hatred from the powerless districts. While the Capitol is filled with lavish and immorally out-of-touch people, the districts contain those who have no control over their own lives and largely remain impoverished.

### ***The History of the Hunger Games***

The Hunger Games serve as a way for the Capitol to control the districts and further enforce the idea that the citizens of the districts are an inferior source of entertainment. Moreover, it emphasizes the strength of the Capitol in light of the failed district revolution during a time period known as the Dark Days. These notions are corroborated by the fact that the Capitol's children never participate in the Games while no child in the districts is safe.

The Hunger Games, as a concept, was developed by Casca Highbottom while he was a student at Panem's Academy, years

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before the district rebellion occurred. His professor, Dr. Volumnia Gaul, had assigned a project that explored hypothetical political retributions for any potential enemies of the state. Highbottom therefore devised a simple method of action that rendered the vanquished useless and harmless by occupying them with the Games. The predatory drive which allows the Games to thrive and remain entertaining is a result of influencing and exploiting humanity's most basic instinct of survival and maintaining the relationship of predator and prey in nature, all while masking the real, overarching enemy: the Capitol. Though the Hunger Games were rudimentary at first, they soon developed into the intricate web that delicately - or should we say precariously - interlaces the lives of the Capitol citizens with the fates of the district citizens that we observe in this time period in which the committee is set. Against Highbottom's wishes, Crassus Snow (future President Coriolanus Snow's father), submitted the idea to Dr. Gaul which was immediately implemented after the Capitol defeated the districts during the District Rebellion. Dr. Gaul assumed the role of the first Gamemaker but forced Highbottom to take credit and part, knowing that he was

mortified by his creation, leading to his morphling addiction. Dr. Gaul was a passionate supporter of instituting the Hunger Games not only because she felt humanity's true nature was exposed through the practice of children killing children, which were perceived as society's most innocent and harmless, but also because it maintained and reenacted the conflict experienced between the districts and the Capitol in a controlled environment where the Capitol was the only party who won overall. Her fear which she hoped to convey through the games was that without totalitarian control, the real world could one day become the Games.

### ***Pre-Games Protocol/Activities***

Preceding the Games, the Reaping occurs, in which a boy and girl between the ages of 12 and 18 are randomly selected as tributes to represent their districts. It is a widely televised event taking place in the district center. All citizens are forced to watch and all children are forced to attend, the only exception being if the individual is on their deathbed. Each district is assigned a Capitol representative to moderate the Reaping and draw the names. Entries into

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the raffle-style drawing are cumulative; this means that the chances of a tribute's name being drawn are skewed. With each year of someone's life, an extra slip with their name is added, and the number of times that tessera is requested equates to another slip. Tessera is a voluntary food ration that is offered by Panem's government to the district citizens. Tessera ensures one person a year's worth of grain and oil, and while the quality is poor and unrefined, it is just enough to survive on. Children eligible for the Hunger Games can sign up for tessera for each member of their family in return for an extra entry into the Reaping. As a result, poorer/more malnourished children often have a higher chance of their name being drawn. It is important to note that volunteering for The Hunger Games is also a possibility. If a tribute name gets drawn, someone of the same gender can volunteer to attend in their place. If more than one person volunteers, the two fight to determine who can go.

After the two tributes are reaped, with the opportunity to volunteer to take a tribute's place vocalized, the boy and girl are placed by district law enforcements called Peacekeepers in two separate rooms in the

Justice Building where they are permitted to say short goodbyes to their friends and families. During this time, a tribute can receive a district token: a small, innocuous object meant to remind them of home (which must be approved by the review board before the Games). Each tribute is guided by their mentor, a previous Hunger Games victor from their district, during the publicity events before the Games and throughout the Games themselves by collecting donations from sponsors to send necessary gifts to the arena. In addition to mentors, the moderators of the Reaping also take part in the publicity side of the events, being paired with the tributes from their assigned district. In order to be crowned the victor of the Games, the tribute must be the last one standing in the arena. Survival cannot only be attested to physical exhibitions of strength and cunning in the arena but is also a result of careful tribute alliances and the manipulation of doting Capitol crowds.

During the week preceding the Game, the tributes are debuted to the Capitol audience through a series of public spectacles and to the Gamemakers through private viewings. When the tributes initially reach the Capitol, they meet with their

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stylists who clean, prep and fashion the tributes in outlandish costumes representing their district's export for the Opening Ceremony/Tribute Parade. For the next few days, the tributes spend all of their time eating extravagant food to gain strength (juxtaposing the poverty most lived with in their district) and training in an underground gymnasium where they can practice their strengths and learn new lifesaving skills. After a few days of practice, each tribute has a private audience with the Gamemakers where they exhibit their best asset in exchange for a score from 1 to 12 (from worst to best). This can dictate how many sponsors a tribute receives in addition to separating the strong from the weak, often putting targets on many tributes' backs. The night before the Games, each tribute is interviewed in front of an audience by legendary Hunger Games host Caesar Flickerman. Caesar Flickerman's job is to paint a personal picture of each of the tributes in hopes of appealing to the hearts of the Capitol citizens and creating a more individualized relationship between the citizen and tribute. These interviews are televised in all districts which district members must watch. If they had one and it was successfully deemed harmless by the

review board, the stylists give the tributes their district tokens to wear or keep. Then, they are sent through a tube to a platform in the arena.

### ***Post-Games Traditions/Conditions***

Once a tribute wins the Games, they become a Victor. They receive lifelong income from the Capitol and move to the Victors' Village in the wealthiest part of their district. They are under strict surveillance by the Capitol after their win; as a public figure, they are a threat in terms of the possibility of wielding power and staging a revolution. Afterwards, they must become mentors to future Reaped tributes. As a Victor, they are under oppressive control by the Capitol and must lead a very specific lifestyle. They are often forced to embody specific tropes and qualities. For example, Finnick Odair, the winner of the 65th Hunger Games, was made to take on a flirtatious and appealing personality. His attractiveness in combination with this crafted persona allowed for him to be more easily controlled by Coriolanus Snow, and he was exploited. He was forced to prostitute himself to Capitol members for Snow's profit. In conclusion, even as a Victor, you

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never truly win: you are always in the palm of the hand of Capitol leaders.

After the Victor prevails, there is a Victory Tour. Within this Tour, the most recent victor goes to each district, their own being the very last. In each district, they must perform a speech written by their publicist and approved by the President usually pertaining to honoring the fallen tributes in that specific district. They stay afterwards to attend a dinner with the district leaders and then go on their way to the next. Finally, before returning to their home district, they conduct an interview with Caesar Flickerman in the Capitol about their life post-games and end the night with a luxurious party at the President's mansion.

### ***The 74th Hunger Games***

The 74th Hunger Games, the primary setting of the first book in *The Hunger Games* trilogy, was set in a flat, forested ecosystem (designed and manipulated by the Gamemakers) with a Cornucopia at its center.

During the Reaping, one girl and one boy were reaped, as per usual. The only

exceptions to this rule during these Games were Cato and Katniss. Cato, from District 1, volunteered as tribute. Many members of "Career" districts (Districts 1, 2, and 4) volunteer because they have been trained to succeed in the Games. It is viewed as a great honor to go to (and win) the Games and brings great wealth to both the Victor and district to have a winning tribute. Only wealthy districts have the means to train their tributes thus the tributes are often healthy, making it so that Careers have an often better chance at success in the Games and predominantly win. Because of the poverty of many districts (especially District 12), tributes are often malnourished and are not as strong. Due to the skewed success of certain tributes, Capitol members often donate money to districts of wealth and tributes of strength, widening the disparity between districts and providing wealthier districts with an advantage and poorer districts at a disadvantage. Careers also often band together at the start of the Games and hunt down weaker individuals. Katniss volunteered in place of her young sister, Prim.

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The Tribute Parade ran normally. After this, the tributes participated in their training and received scores. Katniss took a very rebellious stance and, in her private session, she was furious at being ignored by the Gamemakers, so she shot an arrow directly at the apple in the mouth of a roast pig that the Gamemakers had at the center of their feast spread, earning her the highest training score of 11. Following the release of the scores, the tributes engaged in their interviews. Each took a different angle, many pushing a certain trait or quality in order to increase their appeal to rich Capitol members. For example, Katniss made a fierce debut with another fiery dress, and Peeta was charming and likable. In his interview, he stated that he had a crush on Katniss, and so began their “star-crossed lovers” angle.

The first day, also known as the bloodbath, was indeed a massacre. On the fourth day, Katniss was targeted by a Gamemaker-created wall of fire and was hit by a fireball, injuring her leg. After finding a pool of water and tending to her wounds, Katniss was discovered by the Careers (joined by Peeta) who pursued her and camped underneath the tree where she

climbed for safety. That night, Rue, the tribute from District 11 who was perched in the tree across from Katniss’, pointed out a tracker jacker nest a few branches above Katniss. So began an alliance.

Trackerjackers are a species of genetically engineered wasps that track and sting their victims with venom that causes lumps the size of oranges, hallucinations and oftentimes death. Katniss cut the branch with the trackerjacker nest, leaving it to fall on the Career’s camp below.

Katniss and Rue soon allied with each other and planned an attack against the Career’s camp at the Cornucopia. While Rue set fires in various spots in the arena to lure the Careers out from their camp, Katniss managed to shoot an arrow into the supplies stacked in the mouth of the Cornucopia, severing a burlap bag containing apples. This triggered the surrounding repurposed landmines planted by the male tribute from District 4, which in turn destroyed all of the Careers’ stockpiled materials. Rue, however, did not show up at their meeting point following the attack. Katniss eventually began to worry but heard the four note melody that they sing to each other through the mockingjays - birds that mimic human

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sounds - which signified that she was safe. Katniss found Rue tangled in a net screaming just as she was pierced in the abdomen by Marvel's (the Career tribute from District 1) spear. Katniss shot Marvel with her arrow and obliged to Rue's last request which was for Katniss to sing for her. In an act of defiance against the Games and the Capitol, Katniss framed Rue's body with flowers and weaved them into her hair, knowing that the cameras needed to broadcast Rue's body in the Capitol and districts when removing her from the arena. As her last goodbye to Rue, Katniss whistled the four note melody and pressed the three middle fingers of her left hand against her lips: a melody and gesture which both adopt heavier tones in the events following the 74th Hunger Games.

In a shocking, unprecedented twist, it was then announced that an exception has been made for these Games in that two tributes can be crowned victors if they are from the same district. Katniss immediately searched for Peeta, finding him with a grave leg wound. After she hauled Peeta to a secluded cave, she kissed him. Haymitch awarded the action with a bowl of soup (via sponsor funding) and Katniss realized how

imperative it was that she continue playing the star-crossed lovers angle in order to elicit support from the Capitol. As the days passed, Peeta's leg injury worsened and Katniss discovered that he had blood poisoning. Then, it was proclaimed that a feast would take place where each tribute could collect something they desperately needed- Katniss knew to seize the opportunity. She and the four other remaining tributes staked out outside the Cornucopia, though sly Foxface was able to quickly and safely retrieve her bag. Katniss decided to dash out to the Cornucopia but was intercepted by Clove, who sliced her eyebrow with one of her throwing knives. Clove captured a bleeding Katniss and was about to brutally carve her face before her head was bashed in by Thresh, the male tribute from District 11. He let Katniss live in order to repay her for helping and honoring Rue. Katniss grabbed the medicine, ran back to the cave, injected Peeta and collapsed. After a few days of torrential rainfall (and Thresh's surprising death by Cato), Katniss and Peeta foraged for food where Peeta, leaving a pile of seemingly harmless berries unattended, accidentally killed Foxface. The berries were actually nightlock, a poisonous berry that results in

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the immediate death of the consumer. The only tributes left were then Cato and the star-crossed lovers. In order to encourage conflict, the Gamemakers drained all of the lakes and ponds, driving the star-crossed lovers to the remaining lake for one final, public conflict with Cato. Cato, however, barreled past the two as he was being chased by genetically engineered Capitol mutts, who had been made to resemble the fallen tributes in size and appearance. The three remaining tributes scrambled up the Cornucopia to avoid the mutts. Cato took advantage of their shock and grabbed Peeta into a chokehold, suffocating him until Katniss shot him in the hand and Peeta pushed him off to the ravenous mutt pack waiting below. Katniss and Peeta sat through the mutts' mutilation of Cato, knowing it was the final show for the Capitol audience, until Katniss shot Cato out of pity. The mutts retreated and Peeta and Katniss waited to be crowned victors. Suddenly, another announcement was made stating that after more careful examination of the rules, only one tribute can be crowned as victor. Tricked, betrayed and exploited by the Capitol and now understanding that the Gamemakers never intended for there to be two victors, Katniss and Peeta agree to a

double suicide in order to ensure the Capitol does not have a victor and that the two can die on their own terms: the ultimate rebellion in the eyes of the Capitol. Just as the two threaten to eat some leftover Nightlock, they are frantically announced as the victors of the 74th Hunger Games. This dual win borne out of defiance crafted a dangerous relationship between the Capitol and the two Victors: it was a very public loss for President Snow and exhibited a form of weakness.

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## Main Committee Topic

### *Post-74<sup>th</sup> Hunger Games*

After the 74th Hunger Games, the stakes are higher than ever for the Capitol to save face after being upstaged and overpowered by Katniss and Peeta's double suicide act. President Snow warns Katniss that the districts have viewed her berry act as prompted not by true love, but by hate and insurrection and that, left unchecked, could result in another revolution that would destroy not only the Capitol but all of Panem. Astounded, worried, and stressed, but having resorted to persuade the districts and President Snow of her love for Peeta, Katniss met with her prep team- Venia, Octavia and Flavius -who beautified her before her interview with Caesar Flickerman later that day and updated her on the current events of the Capitol: how the intensity of the 74th Games still persists and how excited the Capitol is to host the concluding Victory Tour celebration/the upcoming preparations for the Quarter Quell. Prepped, dressed and fashioned with her mockingjay pin, Katniss is ready to begin the Victory Tour.

Upon arriving at District 11, Peeta and Katniss were taken aback by the degree of severity of which the rules were enforced

there. Tall cement walls with thick coils of barbed wire entrapped an enormous population, which worked all day in vast fields and farms. Peeta and Katniss gave a small Capitol-scripted speech to a small fraction of the district, the rest who were working in the harvest. This is the first time Katniss saw Thresh and Rue's families, which immediately catapulted her back to the Games. Peeta, in an unprecedented twist, went off-script to announce that he wanted to give one month of their winnings to the two families every year for the rest of their lives. Moved by seeing Rue's younger sister, Katniss thanked Thresh for his refusal to play the Games on someone else's terms, Rue for her friendship and District 11 for their children and their bread, which was sent as a sponsor gift to the arena. An old man whistled Rue's four note melody and simultaneously the crowd all pressed their three middle fingers of their left hand against their lips and extended them to Katniss; this was her goodbye to Rue and the goodbye signal of District 12. This was the first act of open rebellion Katniss had seen, exactly what she was ordered to avoid and defuse. The Peacekeepers of District 11 hauled the old man who had whistled to the stage, forced him on his knees and shot him in the

head. District 11, along with other other Districts, had suffered even more abuse from the Capitol than the largely neglected District 12. Because of this, the citizens were ready to fight and eager for a spark of rebellion that could be turned into a blaze of revolution.

While Katniss and Peeta attempted to follow Capitol protocol and subdue the effects the berries had on the districts as instructed, their efforts were ultimately unsuccessful because after so many decades of oppression, the districts were eager for any small sign of rebellion. The berries were just the tip of the resistance movement that was secretly brewing beneath Panem and in every citizen. The mockingjay symbol was adopted as a clandestine mark of resistance among district citizens and select Capitol citizens. During the Victory Tour in District 8, rebels attacked the Justice Building, the Peacekeeper's Headquarters and the Communication Center (symbols of Capitol power in the districts) during Peeta and Katniss' prearranged televised engagement. The rebels also targeted the railroad, granary, power plants and the armory. Although the Peacekeepers were initially overwhelmed and had their weapons seized

by the rebels, thousands of Peacekeepers soon arrived to fight and bomb the rebels which ended the revolt within forty eight hours. As punishment, the citizens of District 8 were not permitted to leave their homes, were deprived of food and coal, and could only watch televised hangings. While this martial law was soon lifted, a Capitol bomb destroyed the main textile factory that housed District 8's main exports as it had been where the uprising was planned. Other evidence of acts of uprising include multi-week seafood shortages in District 4, electronic gadget shortage in District 3 and other shortages and unrest in Districts 7 and 11.

### *District 13*

District 13 was founded as one of the original thirteen provinces of Panem. District 13 was primarily a base for the creation of nuclear weapons, high-powered technology, military equipment, and graphite mining. During the First Rebellion, the District rose up in revolution against the Capitol. Due to its status as Panem's military-industrial complex and weapons manufacturer, the District served to be a significant threat to the Capitol and a main supporter of the rebel's cause, supplying

them with lots of materials and general backing. As a result, District 13 along with the other districts were able to fight as formidable opponents, even going so far as to put the Capitol under siege for two years at the end of the war. However, after a failed invasion of the Capitol, the Rebels were set back, having to face the reality that total victory was impossible. Regardless, that was not the end; one final mission was launched that allowed them to take a large portion of the Capitol's nuclear reserve. Because 13 knew that the Capitol had an equal amount of nuclear power in a secondary space, they negotiated a deal under the premise of mutually assured destruction. This secret ceasefire deal detailed an undercover split of District 13 from Panem and their formation as an independent state. They would also pull all of their backing from the rebel forces and pretend to be obliterated. Seeing as the Capitol had a choice between this and total nuclear war, they had no other option but to agree.

After the agreement, District 13 followed through on exactly that: they withdrew from the rebellion and evacuated completely (forces, supplies, and population) into premeditatively constructed

underground bunkers. The Capitol proceeded by heavily bombing all aboveground infrastructure in order to demonstrate to the rest of Panem the lie that 13 had been completely annihilated. Following those events, the rebel forces collapsed and could not continue fighting against the Capitol, falling into the Dark Days. Meanwhile, District 13, although isolated and completely underground, built a stratocratic republic and recuperated from the War. This is not to deny that it was a difficult time and took decades of rebuilding to get back to a state even close to where they were previously, this time established to be around the 74th Hunger Games. It is stated that there was a heavily damaging pandemic that rendered many people infertile. This led to a waning population and few children, proving to be a serious challenge for the community; albeit the struggle, it did push 13 to adopt and innovate technologies/protocols related to and an overall attitude of resourcefulness as well as militaristic strictness. Nearly all citizens engaged in military training and were enrolled in the military forces. Although regimented, many accredited this behavior as to why they were able to survive and come out of the most difficult time periods.

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### ***History of the Quarter Quell***

The Quarter Quell is essentially a special edition version of the Hunger Games. It occurs every twenty-five years, signifying a quarter anniversary of the district's defeat during the First Rebellion. The celebrations are more extravagant, the arenas more complex and the conditions more savage. Each Quarter Quell's reaping includes a new and creative twist, which was supposedly decided upon during the founding of the Games. The themes are written down on cards and stored in a wooden box that is presented during "The Reading of the Card," where the appropriate card is read to all the districts a few months prior to the Games.

The themes written on the cards were meant to torture the districts on a psychological level and serve as a deeper and more intimate reminder of the district's failure. During the first Quarter Quell, the 25th Hunger Games, each district's citizens were forced to vote which male and female child would be their district's tribute. This was meant to remind the rebels that it was their fault the Hunger Games occur and that their children die every year. During the second Quarter Quell, the 50th Hunger Games, four tributes were reaped from each

district (two boys and two girls). This was to remind the districts that two rebels died for each Capitol citizen: another display of Capitol power.

### ***Current Situation***

It is the Reaping Day of the 75th Hunger Games – the Third Quarter Quell, or the 75th Hunger Games. This time, however, President Snow announces a twist: in order to remind the districts that nobody is ever truly safe from the Capitol, the tributes will be reaped from an already-existing pool of tributes, also known as the Victors. This is meant to alienate the districts even further from each other and prove that even those that were considered worthy of safety - the districts' victors - were still subjects of Capitol rule. It is also inferred that the theme of the third Quarter Quell was not planned on the card, but instead created by President Snow in order to get Katniss back into the arena and therefore suppress the revolution. This Quarter Quell, in the rebels' eyes, is meant to kill Katniss and Peeta in order to eliminate both the face of the revolution and the motive behind it. The theme of the Third Quarter Quell vexes Capitol citizens, who have grown extremely attached to their favorite victors. The tributes attempted to

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capitalize on this sentiment during the pre-Games events but without any success.

| <b>District</b> | <b>Tributes (Male, Female)</b> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1               | Gloss, Cashmere                |
| 2               | Brutus, Enobaria               |
| 3               | Beetee, Wiress                 |
| 4               | Finnick, Mags                  |
| 7               | Blight, Johanna                |
| 8               | Woof, Cecilia                  |
| 11              | Chaff, Seeder                  |
| 12              | Peeta, Katniss                 |

Katniss, Peeta and the other tributes are dropped into the arena and currently fighting for their lives. The Gamemaker-created arena is lethal: divided into twelve sections, a brutal trap is activated at a certain hour, operating as a figurative clock. Each trap presents a different challenge, some of which include blood rain, lightning strikes, poisonous fog, monkey mutts, jabberjays screaming in the voices of loved ones, and tidal waves.

Simultaneously, Capitol forces have received a tip that the rebel districts are simultaneously devising a rescue plan to transport the rebel tributes to what was thought to be an obliterated District 13. We do not know much, but we do know there needs to be immediate action to ensure the survival of the world as we know it. Yes, you've got that right! District 13 is back and stronger than ever, posing a significant threat to you and all that you know. Citizens of the Capitol- it is time to end the revolution once and for all. Remind the districts who controls Panem, or there may be dire consequences.

### ***Past Solutions***

#### *The First Rebellion*

Although the Capitol has more wealth and power than the districts, the districts are the source of the Capitol's strength. This relationship was exemplified during the districts' first rebellion. The districts conducted air raids on the Capitol which were always unexpected because of rebel interference in District 5 which caused blackouts to the Capitol's surveillance technology. To retaliate, the Capitol held a number of high profile executions in the

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Capitol Arena, a decrepit amphitheater which would then host the first ten Hunger Games.

Another way the Capitol attacked the rebels was by creating mutations-genetically modified animals. One example is the jabberjay. This exclusively male bird that was used by the Capitol to spy on rebels in the mountains thanks to its ability to memorize and repeat conversations. The Capitol also created tracker jackers. These lethal golden-colored wasps were scattered around the districts and meant to follow and attack anyone who disturbed their hives. Consequences of being stung include plum to orange sized lumps that expel bright green ooze and hallucinations that drive people to madness as their venom targets fear centers in the brain. Other examples of mutts include the dog mutts from the 74th Hunger Games and snake mutts developed by Dr. Gaul and kept as pets.

### *The Treaty of Treason*

The Treaty of Treason was a document created by the Capitol following the First Rebellion. This was a method to ensure peace following the defeat of the districts and officially put the Hunger Games

into place. Although it is known to contain many laws of peace, the only clear and known consequence is the Hunger Games. It details their function, the proceedings, and the ultimate public, broadcasted reason behind them: to prevent the Dark Days from reoccurring. The Dark Days is a term used to constitute the timeframe around the First Rebellion. They were an extremely difficult time associated with poverty, death, sickness, and war crimes. This Treaty also emphasized the importance of keeping districts separated and implementing harsh and dictatorial methods of control to keep it that way, including travel bans between districts. Every Hunger Games requires this Treaty to be read out by the mayor of each district. As represented by the proceedings throughout and surrounding the Hunger Games as outlined by the Treaty of Treason, it is abundantly clear that the government uses the Games as a means of control. This includes forcing Districts to watch them in a threatening manner, the forced public appearance of the tributes to appeal to the Capitol, and countless more examples. Victors are perpetually controlled, an example being Finnick Odair's sexual exploitation. All of this additionally plays into the manipulation of Capitol residents to

brainwash them into believing that these actions are normal and acceptable, submitting them to full obedience to Capitol rule.

### *Peacekeepers*

Peacekeepers represent a gendarmerie, a military force with law enforcement duties among civilians, and are present in each district. They are controlled by the Capitol and often originate from either the Capitol or District 2, where many of them are recruited, trained, and where their weapons are manufactured, although anyone from any district can technically become a Peacekeeper as long as they are not assigned to the district they come from. Many people become Peacekeepers due to the promise of food and compensation, while others have a desire to serve Panem. Each Peacekeeper must be subjected to a long and rigorous military training and serve a 20-year term in which they cannot marry or have children. Peacekeepers are led by a Head Peacekeeper in each district, and Head Peacekeepers act as a main force of control within the districts at the manipulation of the Capitol. Above Peacekeepers lie Officers, a special class of Peacekeepers in control of other Peacekeepers, who have special

privileges and often represent the best of their class. To become an Officer, Peacekeepers must take a difficult officer candidate test and have a secondary school education. The test includes a plethora of different topics testing scholastic aptitude and overall military knowledge. Because most Peacekeepers were nearly illiterate or did not get a strong education, they did not pass the test. All peacekeepers have a wide range of roles and responsibilities: they are a part of the air force and foot soldiers for the Capitol, they deal with criminals and rebels in their assigned districts, and they have other law enforcement and military-related duties as well. Punishments administered by Peacekeepers are often excessively severe and brutal, including public whippings and executions, notoriously in District 11. The Peacekeepers have sleek and imposing uniforms, represented in the films by a monochromatic white with a black stripe down the middle depicting the Capitol seal. The outfit is adorned with leather boots and gloves, a baton, body pads, a heavy helmet in which the Peacekeeper cannot be identified, and a heavy gun or rifle. While it is unknown why the Peacekeepers wear white, it is presumed that the color is related to President Snow's idealism of society and

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his love of the color, as well as its standout factor in comparison with the often dull and dreary look of the districts. It also makes the officers easy to identify and represent an ominous presence, a constant reminder that civilians are being surveilled at all times.

### *Control of Public Figures*

In order to retain control of the victors' stories, President Snow often sculpted their public image via threats and blackmail. An overarching theme in this control is the use of leverage, especially family, to force Victors into staying quiet and following through with the nauseatingly orchestrated scheme planned by Capitol rulers to appeal to the Capitol citizens.

For example, Haymitch Abernathy admits that his entire family was murdered as a consequence for how he won his games. He used a flaw of the arena to kill his final opponent at the end of his Games, forcing the other tribute to ricochet a weapon against the edge of the force field. This pointed out a sort of weakness of the arena and marked Haymitch as a clever and disobedient Victor, leading the President at the time to killing his family and, therefore, likely ensuring that Haymitch would never go against Capitol

rule again. This rang true, pushing Haymitch to alcohol addiction and worsening his PTSD.

Finnick Odair won his Games when he was 14 years old. Beloved by all Capitol citizens for his beauty, cunning and skill during the Games, President Snow ordered that he prostitute himself once he turned 16 to wealthy citizens. If he refused, President Snow would kill somebody Finnick loved. Therefore, in order to save those he cared about, Finnick was forced to comply. On the other hand, it is implied that Johanna went through the same struggle but with one key difference: all of her loved ones were killed when she chose to not prostitute herself out to Capitol citizens.

Another example of the blatant control of Victors is President Snow killing Katniss' stylist, Cinna, whom she had formed a special bond with, right in front of her before she was to enter the Quarter Quell arena. He used their closeness to threaten Katniss into submission and ensure that she was obeying Capitol rule.

The Capitol also controls its own citizens as well. A prime example of this is Seneca Crane, the Head Gamemaker for the

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74th Hunger Games. When Katniss bested his Games, he disappeared-thought to be tortured, imprisoned, executed or all three-by President Snow.

changed in the face of a new societal dawn?

### ***Questions to Consider***

1. How can the Capitol appease, coerce, or forcefully prevent the districts from rebelling in order to keep Panem whole?
  2. What creative methods of revolution prevention can be devised?
  3. How does the cycle of revolution both in the book and in world history compare, and how can that play a role into next steps?
  4. What parallels can be drawn between The Hunger Games and modern society?
  5. In what ways can the Capitol prevent future rebellions? Does this include newly drawn protocols and processes?
  6. What steps can be taken in order to strengthen the Capitol's control of Panem while relying less on the support of the districts?
  7. How must the Hunger Games and the Capitol's handling of them be
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## Bloc Positions

### ***President Coriolanus Snow***

Coriolanus Snow was a student at the Academy where he mentored the female tribute from District 12 during the 10th Hunger Games. He studied military studies at the University where he served as Peacekeeper for a short while and then as an apprentice Gamemaker. As president, Snow rules over the Capitol and the districts with an iron fist.

### ***Caesar Flickerman***

Caesar Flickerman is the televised host of the Hunger Games. He interviews tributes and has done so for over 40 years, being known for his positive, fun nature and provocative questioning style.

### ***Claudius Templesmith***

Claudius Templesmith is the announcer for the Hunger Games. His deep and commanding voice is projected to the tributes and audience frequently throughout the games, broadcasting dead tributes and updates usually ending with the phrase, “may the odds be ever in your favor.”

### ***Antonius***

Antonius is Panem’s Defense Minister and Snow’s right hand. He is a highly important figure of Panem’s political system and a part of the most entrusted inner circle.

### ***Atala***

Atala is the head trainer for the Hunger Games, preparing the tributes with as many skills as possible preceding their entrance into the arena. These skills range from camouflaging techniques to hand combat, often teasing out the strength of even the weakest tribute. She sets up training stations, explains their significance to the tributes, and tries to get tributes in as best shape as possible.

### ***Flavius***

Flavius is one of three members of Katniss’ prep team. The prep team engages in preparing Katniss for public appearances, fashioning her hair, makeup, and other parts of her presentation to fit the bill. Flavius is focused on her hair specifically and forms a special bond with Katniss as they were paired from the beginning and spend a lot of hard times together.

***Octavia***

Octavia is a second member of the prep team. She loves high class fashion and the Hunger Games and also grows attached to Katniss.

***Venia***

Venia is the final prep team member. She is a bit different from the other members: while Flavius and Octavia often have a hard time concealing their emotions, Venia has an easier time controlling her feelings and has a very strong personality. She seems to be the strongest-willed of the three and tries to remain stoic for Katniss.

***Romulus Thread***

Romulus Thread is a ruthless and unforgiving Head Peacekeeper of District 12. He is notorious for a horribly harsh crackdown on rules, especially in comparison to previous Heads. An example is Gale's whipping, as aforementioned in the Post-74th Hunger Games section.

***Cray***

Cray was the Head Peacekeeper of District 12 preceding Romulus Thread. He always broke the rules, not adhering to every

procedure or cracking down even when someone was doing something wrong. He also was known for paying girls to sleep with him.

***Egeria***

Egeria is the Capitol's Minister of Interior, meaning that she handles internal affairs. This could include public security and civil registration/identification to name a couple. She is also a part of Snow's trusted circle as a Cabinet member.

***Dr. Volumnia Gaul***

Dr. Gaul was the Head Gamemaker for the 10th Hunger Games. She was also an instructor at the University and the sadistic mastermind behind the experimental weapons division and the mutations often used in the Games.

***Agrippina Sickle***

Agrippina was the gymnasium professor at the Academy. She was awarded an ornamental shield at the conclusion of the First Rebellion as she controlled Academy safety drills during rebel bombing of the Capitol.

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***Casca Highbottom***

Casca Highbottom is the father of the Hunger Games and the person who originally came up with the plans. He was also the dean of the Academy.

***Festus Creed***

Festus was a Capitol resident and a high-ranking student at the Academy. During the 10th Hunger Games he was selected to mentor the District 4 female tribute Coral.

***Clemensia Dovecote***

Clemensia was a Capitol resident and a high-ranking student at the Academy. During the 10th Hunger Games she was selected to mentor the District 11 male tribute Reaper Ash. She and Coriolanus were assigned by Dr. Gaul to write a paper regarding the Games, which Clemensia could not complete because of her grief over her friend Arachne's throat being slit by the tribute she was assigned to mentor for the 10th Hunger Games. After Coriolanus submitted the paper he wrote himself to Dr. Gaul, the two were summoned by Gaul where Clemensia was asked to retrieve the paper from the inside of a tank filled with mutt snakes. Because her scent did not

match that of the paper, the snakes attacked her, proving to Gaul that she cheated the grade. She was horribly disfigured by the attack but survived.

***Lysistrata Vickers***

Lysistrata was a Capitol resident and a high-ranking student at the Academy. During the 10th Hunger Games, she was assigned to mentor the District 12 male tribute Jessup Diggs. She attempted to ally with Coriolanus Snow, who was responsible for mentoring the District 12 female tribute Lucy Gray Baird. She was not a supporter of the Hunger Games.

***Crispus Demigloss***

Crispus was a history professor at the Academy who was in charge of implementing ways for the citizens to watch the Games more. It was then decided that viewing would be mandatory and that placing bets on tributes would increase viewing.

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