HMDC Presents...

# Caucus Practice Cards: Mongol Empire, 1225 (Crisis Committee)

Topic: Death of Genghis Khan

These cards help you practice speaking in a moderated caucus, where each speech is short and must answer one question. A 30-second speech is about 60 to 70 words, so every word must count. For each card, fill in the three lines for your character, then read it aloud with a timer.

## MODERATED CAUCUS CARDS

| Caucus question | Your 30-second speech frame |
|---|---|
| **1.** Who should become the next Great Khan, and why? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |
| **2.** How can the empire stay united after the Khan's death? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |
| **3.** How should the army be led during the change of power? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |
| **4.** How should conquered peoples and their leaders be treated? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |
| **5.** How can trade along the roads be kept safe? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |
| **6.** Which family or advisor should control the treasury, and why? | Honorable Chair, delegates: [Character] believes _____. This matters because _____. We propose _____. Thank you. |

## UNMODERATED CAUCUS TASKS

In an unmoderated caucus there are no speeches. Delegates move around, talk and write together. Try these four tasks in order.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. | **Find your allies.** Talk to three characters whose goals match yours. Write their names and what each one wants. |
| 2. | **Write a directive.** With your group, write a short order the court can give to solve the biggest problem right now. |
| 3. | **Merge plans.** Find another group with a similar plan. Combine the two directives into one that both groups can support. |
| 4. | **Plan a crisis note.** Write one private note that uses your character's own power to help your goal, and keep it fitting the year 1225. |

## POINTS AND MOTIONS CHEAT SHEET

| Say this | What it does |
|---|---|
| **Motion for a Moderated Caucus** | Say the topic, the speaking time and the total time. Example: "Motion for a moderated caucus on [your topic], 45 seconds each, 10 minutes total." No yields or motions happen during it. |
| **Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus** | Say only the total time. Formal debate stops and delegates talk and write freely. |
| **Motion to Extend** | Adds more time to a caucus. The extra time can be no more than half of the original time. |
| **Motion to Set the Speaking Time** | Speaking time starts at one minute. You may move to change it. |
| **Motion to Enter Voting Procedure** | Ends debate so the committee votes on the resolutions on the floor. |
| **Motion to Suspend or Adjourn** | Suspend pauses the committee until the next session. Adjourn ends it for the whole conference. |
| **Point of Personal Privilege** | Use it when something stops you from taking part, such as when you cannot hear. It may interrupt a speaker, so use it carefully. |
| **Point of Order** | Use it when the rules are being used incorrectly. It may never interrupt a speaker. |
| **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry** | Ask the chair a question about the rules. It may never interrupt a speaker. |
| **Point of Information** | HMUN does not recognize points of information. Do not raise one. |
| **Right of Reply** | The HMUN guide says: "A delegate whose personal integrity has been impugned by another delegate may request a Right of Reply." If the Moderator grants it, you give a thirty-second speech. The Moderator's decision cannot be appealed. |
| **Yields** | After a speakers list speech you may yield to another delegate, to questions, or to the chair. Yields are not allowed in a moderated caucus. |

Crisis committees may change some rules; listen to your chair on the first day. Rules come from Harvard Model United Nations, "Guide to Delegate Preparation" (HMUN 2027), harvardmun.org, Last Accessed: November 2026. HMUN Online uses the same format as the in-person committee sessions (harvardmun.org/hmun-online, Last Accessed: November 2026).