**Task 6 From rant to reason - Fighting Spending Cuts**

Your next three minute talk, for Monday 25 November, should be a more reasoned, convincing speech.

In the wake of the economic crisis and with spiralling national debt most governments across Europe and the Western world have had to introduce austerity measures not seen for decades.

These swingeing cuts affect all ministries and departments. However, unexpected revenue from the recent increase in oil prices means that some cuts can be mitigated. The Prime Minister, Ms Riley, has called for a Cabinet meeting, to take place on Monday 25 November at 13.30, in which each Minister or Departmental Secretary will make the case for their Ministry/Department. Each participant will be given 3 minutes to present their case. There will follow an initial vote to select three potential Ministries/Departments to save from the cuts. These will then be given a further 2 minutes to re-present their case and make counter arguments against the other two contenders. At the end of the debate there will be a vote on which of the three departments will see their 2014 budget reinstated to 2012 levels.

You can choose ANY department or ministry. If two people choose the same department they will be treated as two DIFFERENT departments and a decision will be made on the strength of the arguments!