

# FIJIAN ELECTIONS OFFICE



## STUDENTS WORKBOOK

Name: .....

School: .....

Year: .....







FIJIAN ELECTIONS OFFICE  
*My Election, My Fiji*

This *Introduction to Elections: A Learning Module for Year 10 Social Science – Students Workbook* is developed to act as a guide to the Fijian electoral system and an important resource in understanding the Fijian electoral processes. Although this manual substantially covers the concepts related to elections, it is not to be deemed as an exhaustive or definite guide to the way elections are conducted in Fiji.

Lesson Five (5) of this module is the culminating mock election simulation exercise. This mock election simulation exercise aims to familiarize students with the basic electoral processes and therefore, the election process is simplified for classroom use and it in no way forms an exhaustive or definite guide to the way elections are conducted in Fiji.

This *Students Workbook* is subject to change and review by the Fijian Elections Office on a periodic basis. All users of this *Students Workbook* need to update themselves with any changes made in the electoral laws, policies and procedures. The Fijian Elections Office will not be liable for any misinterpretation of this *Students Workbook*.

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# Message from THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

*Bula Vinaka!*

On behalf of the Fijian Elections Office, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the *Introduction to Elections: A Learning Module for Year 10 Social Science – Students Workbook*.

This *Students Workbook* has been created as a guide to the Fijian electoral system and an important resource in understanding our electoral processes. It is also the first module for high school students that allows them to participate in a mock electoral process.



Our mock election gives students a glimpse into the Fijian electoral process by simulating a polling station, along with mock Ballot Boxes, Voting Screens and Ballot Papers, and then carrying out seat allocation. It also provides an opportunity to better understand and participate in an election, and prepares students to become informed and motivated citizens in the Fijian electoral process.

Our high school students will one day go on to inherit our democracy and systems of governance, and they need to be prepared for that enormous responsibility. By teaching how to analyse and apply information in casting votes, this workbook, as part of our mock election process, helps build the capacity of our students in making their voices heard in our democracy, and in shaping Fiji's future.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution by Yvonne Gouldie (lead consultant), Ravneel Chand (FEO Project Lead), and the team at the Ministry of Education and my other colleagues at the Fijian Elections Office for their commitment and tireless efforts in finalizing this workbook.

I have no doubt that students will enjoy this learning opportunity, and go on to become engaged participants during elections in the years ahead.

*Vinaka Vakalevu*

**Mohammed Saneem**  
*Supervisor of Elections*



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## What is this Module About

A healthy democracy depends on the education and participation of its citizens, who have the skills, knowledge and attitude to engage in their communities in a peaceful manner. This module will help you to understand your democratic rights and responsibilities. Elections are an essential feature of any democracy thus it is important for citizens to know about elections and how it is used as a tool in ensuring good governance.





## Objectives of this Module

This module aims to develop knowledge, skills and values necessary to participate actively in national election processes.

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>APO</b>	Assistant Presiding Officer
<b>EC</b>	Electoral Commission
<b>EMB</b>	Electoral Management Body
<b>FAQ</b>	Frequently Asked Question
<b>FEO</b>	Fijian Elections Office
<b>MP</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>PWD</b>	Persons with Disabilities
<b>PDW</b>	Polling Day Worker
<b>PO</b>	Presiding Officer
<b>PS</b>	Polling Station
<b>SoE</b>	Supervisor of Elections
<b>SSoE</b>	Student Supervisor of Elections (Mock Election)
<b>UNDHR</b>	United Nations Declaration of Human Rights
<b>VL</b>	Voter List



# *Lesson*



## INTRODUCTION TO ELECTIONS



## 1.1 Learning Outcome

By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

1. Define 'election' and some other key electoral terms; and
2. State reasons why elections are important in a democracy.
3. Identify rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

## 1.2 Introduction

Voting in an election is the process of selecting a candidate who will speak for you in the government.

When you vote, you are choosing a candidate that you think will best represent you and your wishes. Often this person is a member of a political party.

Every vote is important. Even if the candidate you choose does not win, your vote shows all Fijians what is important to you and your community.

This can help shape the government's decisions. In Fiji, we vote in municipality (town and city council) and the General Elections.

## 1.3 Election Basics

In Fiji, any person above the age of eighteen (18) can choose who will represent them in government by voting in the **elections**.



Illustration by: Ronald Osmond Mario



An **election** is when people who live in a certain area **vote** for individuals to represent them in the government. The individuals they are **voting** for are called **candidates**.

Each **candidate** belongs to a **political party**. Sometimes a **candidate** may contest elections as an independent candidate and not in a political party. There are many different **political parties** running against each other in each **election**.

The **election** will determine the **government of the day** as well as the members of the parliament who will be representing your interests for the next four years.

Each **political party** has different ideas about how the country should be run, which they share in a document called a **manifesto**.

The **political party** with the most **seats** will become the **Fijian Government**. The **political party** that gets the second most **seats** will become the **Opposition**.

## 1.4 The Origins of Democracy and Voting

The first democratic form of government was developed in the Greek city-states during the 6th century B.C. In Athens all citizens, rich and poor, participated fully in government; however — minors, women, slaves, and foreigners, perhaps 90 percent of the population — were not citizens. Citizens were able to meet in the *agora* (*central public space*) and discuss and vote on important matters. Voting was in public – citizens raised their hands to vote on issues. The decisions made, became *law*.

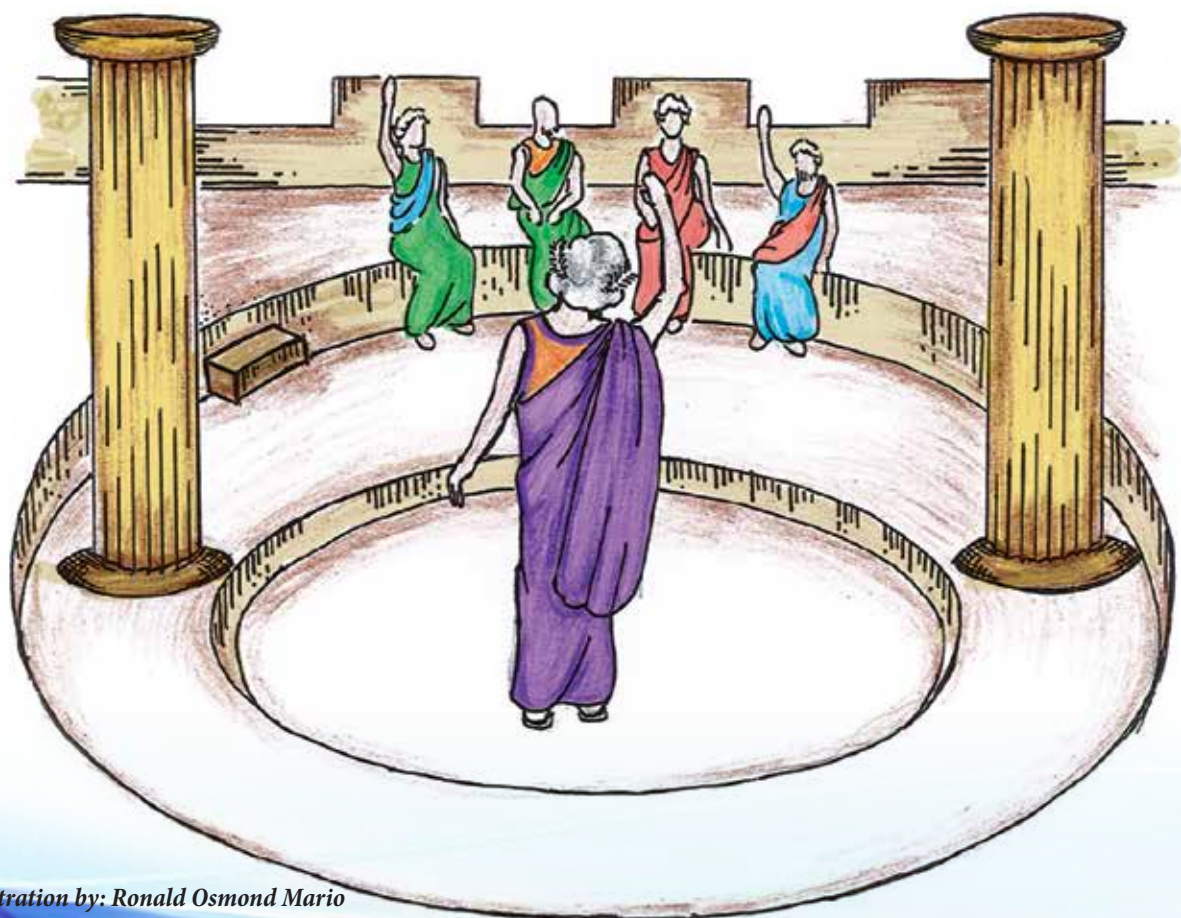


Illustration by: Ronald Osmond Mario



Fill in the missing words from the list below to explore the origins of democracy.

laws | Greece | vote | decisions | Democracy | power  
frequent | directly

..... began in ancient.....was exercised  
by people through ..... meetings. Citizens could ..... on  
issues raised and decide on policies. The ..... made became  
.....

## 1.5 Democracy and Elections

In a democracy, citizen participation defines the health and vitality of the political process. One of the most basic forms of civic participation – voting – is the primary basis for the ‘consent of the governed’ – which is one of the most basic principles upon which our government rests.

A democracy is characterized by the fact that all state authority or power is derived from the people. The people decide.

We **vote** for individuals (our **representatives**) to do what we need and want them to do. If we like how they **represent** us, we vote for them again. If we don’t like how they **represent** us, we vote for someone else.

An election is a method of choosing leaders or making decisions by a process of voting. Ancient Athens had a system of elections in which all citizens could vote. With the birth of modern democracy, elections have become a universal way of choosing legislative representatives and government leaders.

Every adult has the right to vote - known as ‘universal suffrage’. Democracy is much more than holding elections. However, free and fair elections are one of its fundamental conditions.

In a democracy, power is exercised and transferred during general, equal, free, secret and direct elections for a limited period of time. An election is regarded as valid in a democracy, only when it offers real alternatives. The freedom of speech, free information, protection of minorities and free opposition are all fundamental conditions of a democratic election.



Source: [https://todayinsci.com/L/Lincoln\\_Abraham/LincolnAbraham300px.jpg](https://todayinsci.com/L/Lincoln_Abraham/LincolnAbraham300px.jpg)

An accepted definition of democracy as stated by the former president of the United States of America, Abraham Lincoln is “*Government of the people, by the people and for the people*”.



It is not possible that every adult can be directly involved in the governance and make laws of a state in modern times, as was the case in the ancient Greek city states. These days, what we try to do is to elect representatives as Presidents, Prime Ministers and Members of Parliament to undertake day-to-day administration of affairs on our behalf. As they are elected to office by the people, they are responsible to answer to the people.



Answer the following questions:

1. Explain where the **authority or power to rule** comes from in a democracy?

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2. Describe the purpose of **elections** in a democracy?

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3. What are the purposes or functions of **representatives** in a democracy?

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4. Why is voting and elections important?

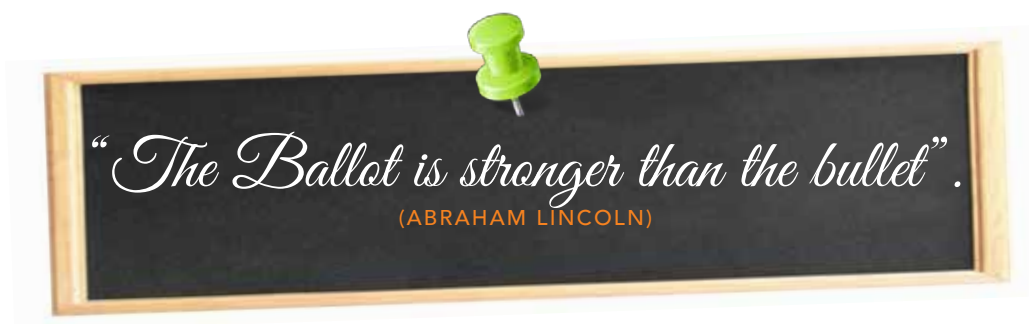
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## 1.6 Rights and Responsibilities in a Democracy

There are certain rights which an individual enjoys in a democracy. However, there are also responsibilities associated with these rights. Some of the rights and responsibilities in a democracy are as follows:

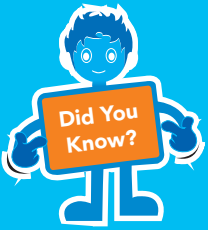
Rights	Responsibilities
Freedom to express yourself.	Support and defend the Constitution.
Freedom of religion.	Stay informed of the issues affecting your community.
Right to a prompt and fair trial.	Participate in the democratic process.
Right to vote in elections.	Respect and obey laws.
Right to run for elected offices.	Respect the rights, beliefs, and opinions of others.
Freedom to pursue life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.	Pay income and other taxes honestly and on time.
	Defend the country if the need should arise.

## 1.7 Free and Fair Elections

When an election is **free** it means that people can nominate for candidature, anyone who is legally entitled to be nominated and people can vote for these people without fear of punishment.

When an election is **fair** it means that all voters and candidates are treated equally. There is no miscounting, bribery or fraud.

First the election must offer a **real choice**, that is, the voters must be free to choose between alternatives. In addition to these basic criteria, democratic elections should be **equal, secret and free**.



Fiji  
granted  
full  
suffrage  
to  
women in  
1963.

### 1.7.1 Universal Suffrage

Universal suffrage means that all citizens above a certain age have an equal right to vote and may offer themselves up as a candidate. Race, sex, language, income, property, career, social standing, class, education and religion are all irrelevant.

### 1.7.2 One Person, One vote

“One person, one vote” means that each vote cast has the same weight and is equal. This rules out the possibility, for instance, of votes from higher-income groups carrying more weight than votes from the less well off.

### 1.7.3 Secret Ballot

In a secret Ballot, voters are able to cast their votes so that no one else knows how and who they have voted for.





Have a look at these pictures and try to discuss whether the Elections Process are free and fair. State your reasons.

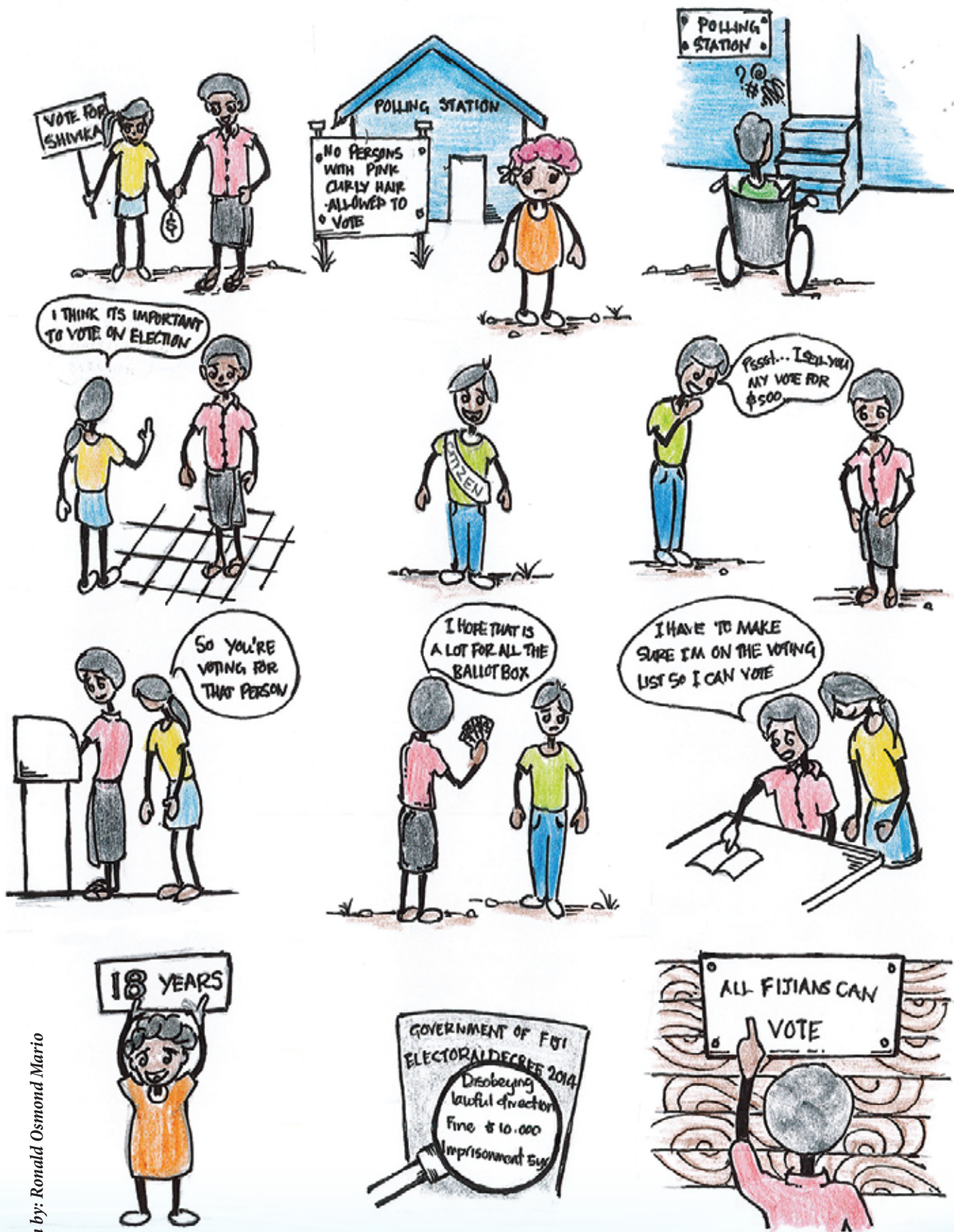


Illustration by: Ronald Osmond Mario

### 1.7.4 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights

#### Article 21

Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.



In a paragraph discuss what “**free and fair elections**” mean to you.

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### 1.8 Voting Systems

An election system or a voting system is a legal system through which voters make a choice between options in an election or a referendum.

The Constitution of the Republic of Fiji 2013, introduced a new electoral system for Fiji known as the Proportional Representation System.

Major types of electoral systems include:

- Plurality System (also known as Simple Majority, or First-Past-The-Post);
- Majority Systems (Also known as the preferential system);
- Proportional Systems; and
- mixtures of the above.

Most countries around the world use the First-Past-The-Post system or some form of Proportional Representation. Some – like Australia – use a system known as the Majority System, and others – like New Zealand – use a mixture of election systems.



## 1.8.1 Different Voting Systems

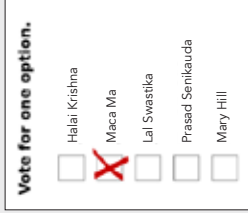
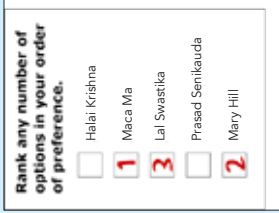
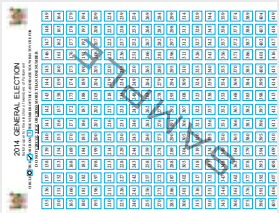
Voting System/ Electoral System	Features	Country That Uses This System	How Does The Ballot Paper Look Like?
First-Past the Post [FPTP]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this voting system, voters place a mark beside the preferred candidate.</li> <li>The candidate who receives the highest number of votes is declared the winner.</li> <li>The name 'First Past the Post' describes a competition where a candidate wins the race by being the first to reach the finishing line (just like in a horse race).</li> </ul>	India	 <p><b>Vote for one option.</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Halai Krishna</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maca Ma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lal Swastika</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prasad Senikauda</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mary Hill</p>
Majority System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this system, voters must indicate their 'preferences' – voting for several candidates in the order of their choice.</li> <li>For example, if there are 4 candidates, voters are required to place the number "1" against the candidate of their first choice, known as their first preference.</li> <li>Voters are then required to place the numbers "2", "3", etc., against the other candidates listed on the Ballot Paper in order of preference.</li> <li>In this system, the winning candidate has to get either an absolute majority (50%+1) of the primary vote or an absolute majority after the distribution of preferences.</li> </ul>	Australia	 <p><b>Rank any number of options in your order of preference.</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Halai Krishna</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Maca Ma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 Lal Swastika</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prasad Senikauda</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mary Hill</p>
Proportional Representation System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this system, voters may be given choice of the number of candidates they may vote for depending on the type of system used.</li> <li>The system aims to produce election results where winners gain seats in proportion to the votes they secure.</li> </ul>	Fiji	


Illustration by:  
Ronald Osmond Mario

*Illustration by:*  
**Ronald Osmond Mario**



- [illegible]

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[illegible]A cartoon character with blue skin and spiky hair is holding a large orange sign that says "Did You Know?". The character is smiling and has its arms raised, holding the sign in front of it. The background is a solid blue color.

The Electoral System of Fiji: Fiji uses a form of proportional representation called 'd'Hondt', named after a system devised by Victor D'Hondt, a Belgian lawyer and mathematician active in the 19th Century. He explained his system in 'Système pratique et raisonné de représentation proportionnelle' in 1882. It is also known as the Jefferson's method and Bader-Ofer method.



## Glossary

<b>Candidates</b>	People who want to be chosen to represent their community as part of the government.
<b>Democracy</b>	A system of government based on the people of an entity, that is, 'government by the people'; a form of government where the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected representatives under a free and fair electoral system.
<b>Election</b>	When citizens of Fiji choose who they want to represent them based on their own personal beliefs. Another word for election is 'Ballot'.
<b>Government</b>	The people in charge of the country who make important decisions about how things are run. This is made up of members from the political party that got the most votes.
<b>Impartial/Netural</b>	Not favouring one side or opinion more than another, not biased. Like an umpire in a sporting game.
<b>Member of Parliament (MP)</b>	The official title of someone who has been chosen to represent their community in the Fijian Government.
<b>Opposition</b>	The people who help keep the government responsible to the citizens of Fiji. This is made up of members from the political party that got the second most votes.
<b>Political Party</b>	A group of people who have the same beliefs about how to run the country and want to become part of the government.
<b>Preference</b>	A greater liking for one alternative over another or others. In 'alternative' voting systems, voters can express preferences, or rank their candidate from the one they like the most to the one they dislike the most.
<b>Representation</b>	Refers to an arrangement whereby one is enabled to speak and act with authority in the behalf of some other. Political representatives are elected officials who speak and act for the citizens who voted for them.
<b>Suffrage</b>	The right to vote in elections, for all adults who are not disqualified by the laws of the country (sometimes referred to as 'universal suffrage').

## **Voting System**

A voting system (or electoral system) is the set of rules that determines how elections and referendums are conducted and how their results are determined. It includes the process by which actual votes cast is translated into seats of the members of parliament.

# *Lesson*



## WHY VOTE?



## 2.1 Learning Outcome

**By the end of this lesson students will be able to:**

1. Identify rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy; and
2. State reasons why voting by all eligible citizens is important in a democracy.

## 2.2 Introduction

Voting is one of the ways you can make changes on the issues you believe in. Elections affect who represents you in government, how public money gets spent and what laws are passed.

Members of government determine how much money or funding these areas get, and what laws apply to them. When you vote for an individual or a political party, you're saying that you agree with their values and their vision for Fiji. With your vote, that candidate and the political party they represent are more likely to win and put those values and ideas into action.

Voting is an essential way to take part in any democratic system.

Voting is one way to make sure that your voice is heard when the government is determining what's important and what's not to Fijians.

But many people do not choose to exercise this right. Voting turnout is low in many countries, and especially low amongst young voters.

Below are some of the reasons why individuals vote or not vote.

Reasons To Vote	Reasons Not To Vote
To make a change	Not a citizen
To support a candidate	Do not know how to vote
It is your right	Do not understand the Ballot Paper
To have a say	Do not think voting makes a difference
	Not interested in voting
	Do not like Political Parties or Candidates
	Do not care about issues
	Too busy or out of town
	Not on the Voter List

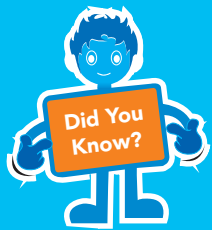
## 2.3 Why Should I Vote?

You should vote because:

1. Everyone aged 18 or older in Fiji has the right to vote;
2. It is important to have your voice heard and to be included in decisions that impact you. This is why it is also a responsibility; and
3. Voting is an important contribution to society as it's a way of allowing speak their minds in a democracy. You can make your voice heard, and your community and country. Ultimately voting shapes your future.



*"If you don't vote you lose the right to complain"*



### Each vote makes a difference:

- One vote made Oliver Cromwell Lord Protector of England in 1653;
- One vote caused Charles 1 to be executed in 1649;
- One vote changed France from a monarchy to a republic in 1875;
- One vote decided that Americans would speak English rather than German in 1776;
- One vote made Adolf Hitler leader of the Nazi Party in 1923; and
- Sydney was awarded the 2000 Olympic Games by two votes.







## Persuasive Paragraph Writing

Write a short paragraph persuading young people to vote in Fiji.

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### Extension Activity 1

Develop an A4 voter education poster to encourage young people to register and vote. Make it original and creative.

Take a photograph of this poster and send it to the FEO by email on [voter.edu@feo.org.fj](mailto:voter.edu@feo.org.fj) for it to be featured on the FEO Voter Education Website [www.votereducation.feo.org.fj](http://www.votereducation.feo.org.fj) and FEO Facebook Page.

### Extension Activity 2

Find out what Fiji's turn-out rate was in the last General Election.



## Glossary

<b>Vote (Ballot)</b>	It is a method of choosing your representative. This is done by casting of Ballot Papers for General Elections in Fiji.
<b>Voter Turn-out</b>	The percentage of eligible Voters who cast a Ballot in an election.

# *Lesson*



**THE FIJIAN ELECTIONS OFFICE [FEO]**



## 3.1 Learning Outcome:

By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

1. Understand how the FEO operates;
2. Identify voter registration requirements or criteria; and
3. Identify candidate qualification criteria.

## 3.2 Introduction



The Fijian Elections Office [FEO] is an independent Electoral Management Body formally established in March 2014 under the Electoral Act, 2014. The mandate of the FEO is to conduct general and other elections in Fiji. The headquarters of the FEO is based in Suva and it has two other branches in Lautoka and Labasa. The FEO has a permanent Voter Services Centre in Suva and other Voter Services Centres are set up as and when required throughout Fiji.

## 3.3 The FEO Vision, Mission and Core Values

### 3.3.1 Vision of the FEO

The vision of the FEO is to be recognised as a leader in establishing best practices in the conduct of elections.

### 3.3.2 Mission of the FEO

The mission of the FEO is the professional and independent conduct of credible elections that enables every Fijian to participate in Fiji's democratic process.

### 3.3.3 Core Values

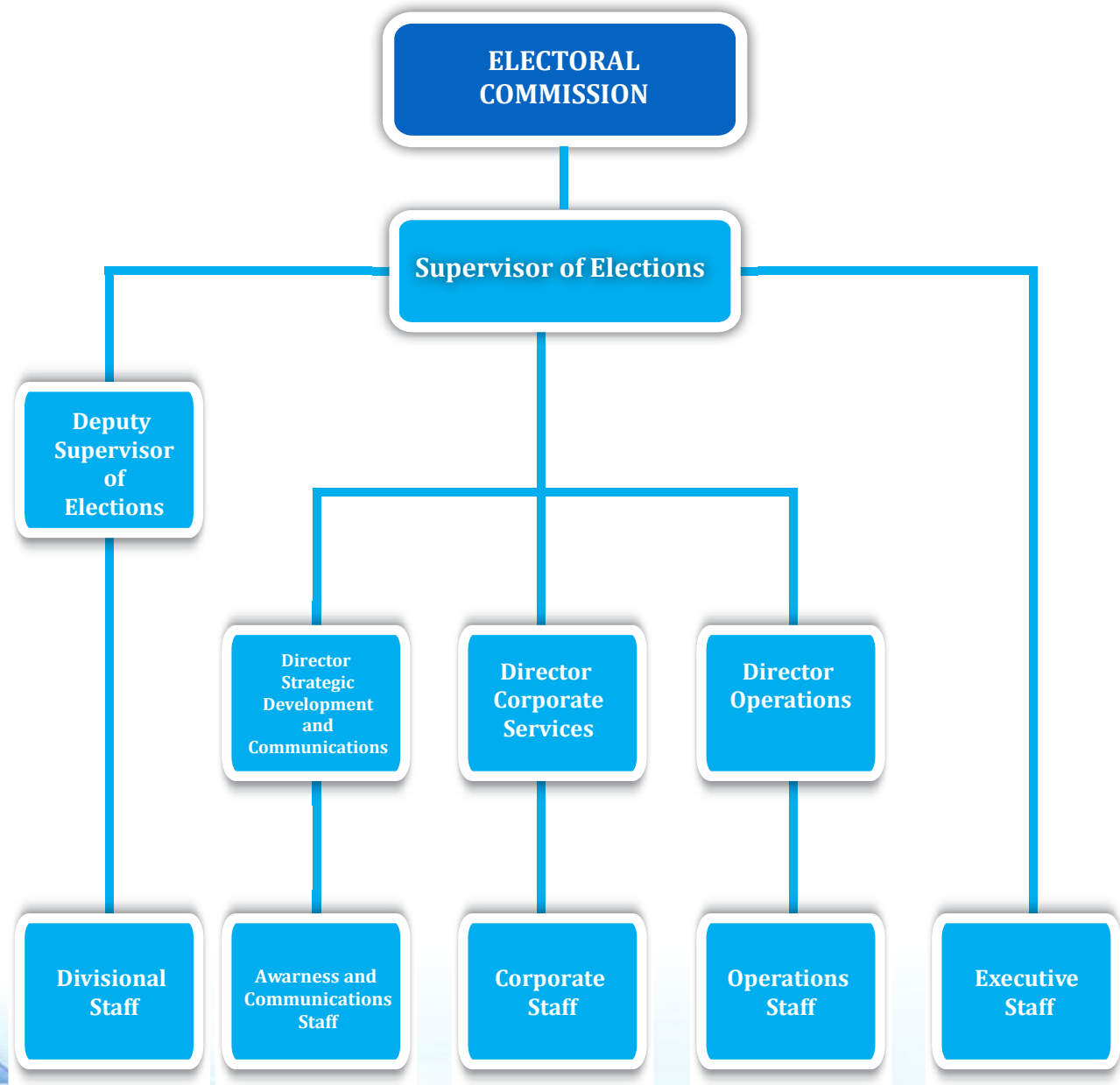
There are eight (8) core values of the FEO. These are:

1. Right to vote- every citizen over the age of eighteen has the right to vote;
2. One person, one vote, one value- every voter has one vote, with each vote being equal;
3. Secrecy of the Ballot- every voter has the right to vote by secret Ballot;
4. A single National Register of Voters- every registered voter shall be listed on a single National Register of Voters;
5. Honesty, integrity and transparency- the FEO values honesty, integrity and

- transparency in all its transactions;
6. Independence and impartiality- the FEO is an independent body and shows no preference in either speech or action for any individual candidate or Political Party;
  7. Professionalism- the FEO is a professional body that adheres to the highest standards of conduct and practice; and
  8. Innovation- the FEO aspires to introduce the most innovative solutions and practices in delivering its functions.

### 3.4 Organisational Structure of the FEO

The head of the FEO is the Supervisor of Elections [SoE] who reports to the Electoral Commission [EC] under the legal framework. The FEO is made up of seventy three core staff in the non-election years, up to three hundred and fifty staff in an election year and up to 17,000 staff only on Election Day. These are mostly Polling Day Workers [PDW]. The FEO's strict adherence to merit based recruitment has allowed it to attract professional and committed personnel to deliver its mandate.



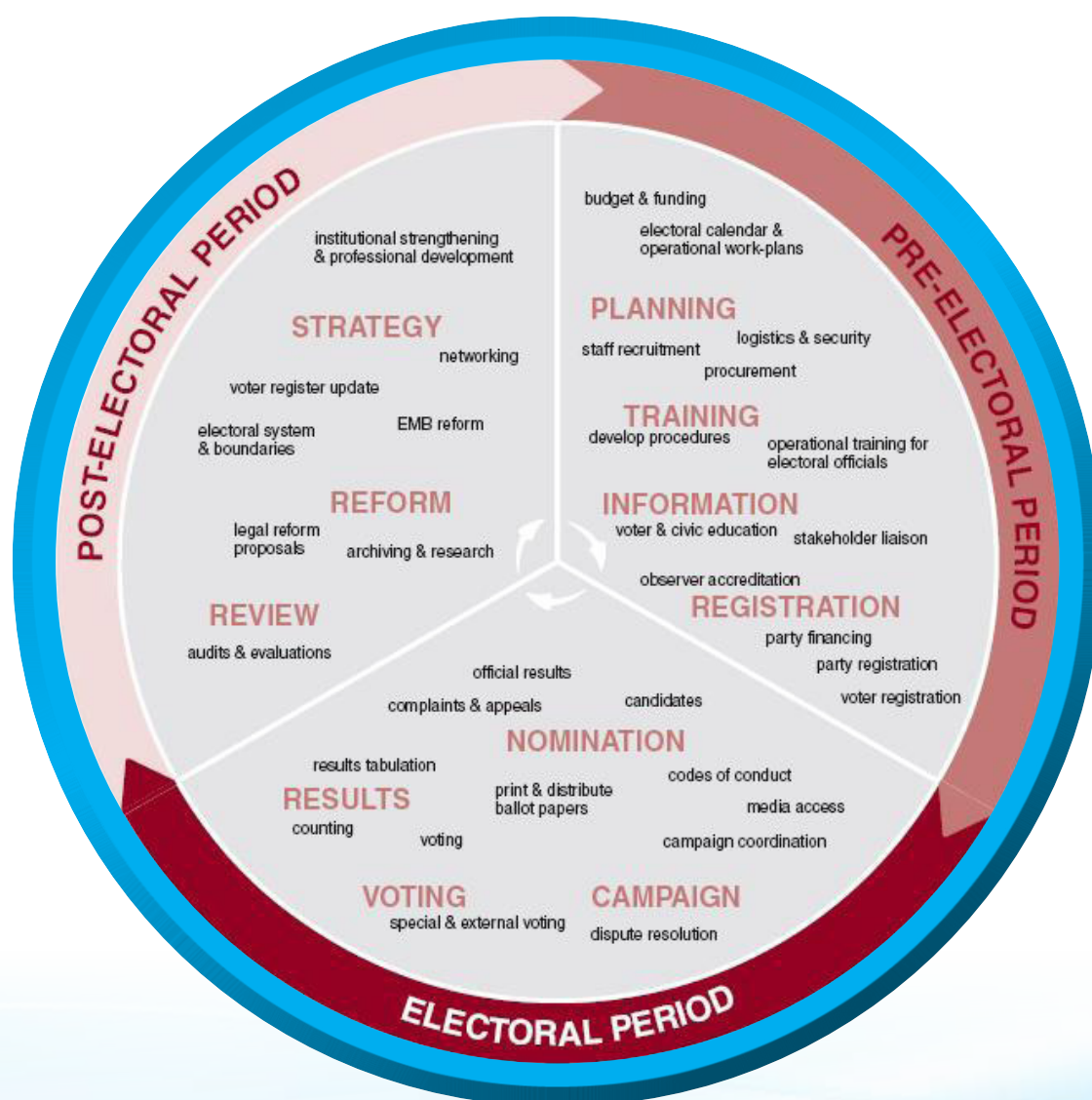


### 3.5 Responsibilities of the FEO

The FEO is responsible for the general administration of elections. Some of the responsibilities are:

- Conducting elections and referenda;
- Maintaining the National Register of Voters;
- Voter education programs and activities;
- Voter registration;
- Public awareness programs;
- Research, advice and assistance on electoral matters to the Parliament, other government agencies and recognized bodies and agencies;
- Assistance in overseas elections and referendums;
- Administration of election funding and financial disclosure;
- Administration of party registration requirements; and
- Conducting the trade union and municipality elections.

Refer to the electoral cycle below to find out more roles and responsibilities of the FEO.



Source: <http://aceproject.org/ero-en/topics/electoral-management/electoral%20cycle.JPG>

### 3.6 Voter Registration

Voter registration is the process by which eligible voters register with the FEO, for the purpose of being allowed to vote in an election.

The importance of voter registration is that it:

- Enhances the democratic process of election;
- Enhances participation of each individual in an election;
- Gives individuals opportunity of choice; and
- Enhances transparency in voters' electoral rights.

Rules for voter registration is provided in the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji under Section 55.

#### ***Voter qualification and registration***

55.—(1) Every citizen who is or will be the age of 18 years and over on or before the date of the issue of the writ for the next election of members to Parliament, has the right to be registered as a voter, in the manner and form prescribed by a written law governing elections or registration of voters.

(2) A person who—

- (a) is serving a sentence of imprisonment of 12 months or longer imposed by a court in Fiji or by a court of another country;
- (b) is under a law in force in Fiji, adjudged or declared to be of unsound mind; or
- (c) is serving a period of disqualification from registration as a voter under a law relating to electoral offences, does not have the right to be registered as a voter.

(3) A person who is registered as a voter and who, after his or her registration as a voter—

- (a) is serving a sentence of imprisonment of 12 months or longer imposed by a court in Fiji or by a court of another country;
- (b) is under a law in force in Fiji, adjudged or declared to be of unsound mind; or
- (c) is serving a period of disqualification from registration as a voter under a law relating to electoral offences, ceases to be a registered voter.

(4) Every person who is registered as a voter has the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament.

(5) The Electoral Commission must maintain a single, national common Register of Voters.

(6) Every citizen who is registered as a voter and who is—

- (a) resident in Fiji on the day of the elections is entitled to vote in that election; or
- (b) not a resident of Fiji or is not present in Fiji on the day of the elections, but is the holder of a valid Fijian passport, is entitled to vote to the extent provided in any written law governing elections.



### 3.7 Documents Required for Voter Registration

In order to register successfully as a voter the applicant needs to fill in a form and produce the following documents to the Voter Registration Clerk:

1. Birth Certificate; and



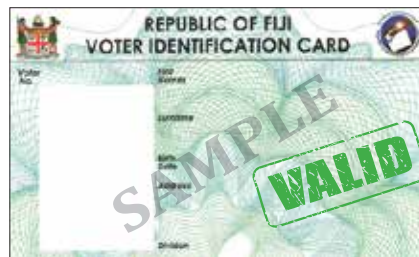
2. Valid Photo ID Card



You can also produce your Fijian passport to be registered

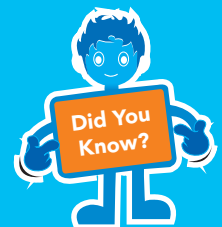


After a person is successfully registered they will be issued with a VoterCard.



Answer the following.

1. Try filling out the table given below. If you are confused refer to the *Election Information Booklet, 2018 General Election* which is available on the FEO Voter Education Website [www.votereducation.feo.org.fj](http://www.votereducation.feo.org.fj)



The FEO on the 5th April 2017 launched its new VoterCard 2.0 which has enhanced security features and is more user friendly.

Who Can Vote in Fiji	Who Cannot Vote in Fiji

2. Fill out the sample voter registration form provided on the next page, using a pencil (in case you make a mistake).

# SAMPLE

## APPLICATION TO REGISTER AS VOTER

### Information Section:

1. You can only register to vote **ONCE**.
2. Please provide accurate and official details on this application form.
3. All registrations are in person (the person must be present) and completed forms are to be submitted to an FEO Voter Registration Official.
4. Persons who submit false information or attempt multiple registration may be referred to authorities for prosecution.

### Part 1: Personal Details of Applicant

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male  
Marital Status: ☐ Married ☐ Single ☐ Others (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

### Details of Spouse: [This part is compulsory if married]

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Details:

Mother's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mother's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 2: Contact Details of Applicant [This part is compulsory]

Mobile (1) : \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile (2): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Preference: ☐ Email ☐ Postal Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 3: Address Details of Applicant [This part is compulsory]

Residential Address: [This part is compulsory]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Town/City

Postal Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Part 4: Polling Venue Details of Applicant** *[Please provide information of a person over 18 years of age]*

Closest Polling Venue: \_\_\_\_\_ Polling Venue Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Polling Venue: \_\_\_\_\_ Polling Venue Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: *[Please provide details of any disability or special needs requirement at polling Place.]*


**Part 5: Details of next of kin** *[Please provide information of a person over 18 years of age]*

Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ VoterCard No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address:	
	Town/City

Postal Address: <i>[This part is compulsory]</i>

**Part 6: Declaration by Applicant**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am over the age of 18 years;
2. I am a citizen of Fiji
3. The information provided in this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and I am aware that it is an offence under section 136 (a) of the Electoral Act to provide false statement or declaration to the Fijian Elections Office or an Election Official.

Signature of Applicant: *[Please see **note** below before you sign]*

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Please sign this Application in the presence of a Registration Official.

**For official use only**

Registration Official Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Official Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

ID Type 1: \_\_\_\_\_ ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

ID Type 2: \_\_\_\_\_ ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

[www.feo.org.fj](http://www.feo.org.fj)

**Warning- Section 136(a) of the Electoral Act:**

*Any person who knowingly and wilfully makes a false statement or declaration in connection with an application for registration as a voter or any other statement or any other statement or declaration for the purpose of the Electoral Act 2014 commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding 10 years, or to both.*

### 3.8 Becoming a Candidate

A Candidate is a person who is competing to get elected to the Parliament. Candidates can compete as independent candidates or as part of a political party.

*Political parties are essential institutions of democracy. By competing in elections parties offer citizens a choice in governance, and while in opposition they can hold governments accountable. When citizens join political parties, volunteer their time, donate money and vote for their leaders, they are exercising their basic democratic rights.*

Part of your political rights is to be able to run for elections i.e. to become a candidate.

A person cannot become a candidate if a person is:

- Bankrupt;
- A Public Officer;
- Not a citizen of Fiji;
- Member of the Electoral Commission;
- Serving a prison term;
- Convicted of any offence with a 12 months imprisonment term prior to nomination; and
- Disqualified for an electoral offence.



#### Paragraph Writing

In a paragraph discuss three (3) issues that you **would support** if you become a candidate and explain three (3) reasons why.

.....

.....

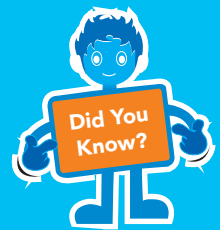
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.....

.....



The rules governing the criteria for a person to become an independent candidate can be found under Section 56 of our Constitution.



## Extension Activity 1

Design a sample of VoterCard for your class, which students can use to vote for your class prefects.

Take a photograph of your VoterCard and send it to the FEO by email on [voter.edu@feo.org.fj](mailto:voter.edu@feo.org.fj) for it to be featured on the FEO Voter Education Website [www.votereducation.feo.org.fj](http://www.votereducation.feo.org.fj) and Facebook Page.

## Glossary

<b>Candidate Nomination</b>	Nomination is a part of the process of selecting a candidate for either election to a public office. In Fiji, a person wishing to nominate or stand as a candidate must complete a Nomination Form and pay a deposit of by deposits of \$1,000.00 for each party candidate and \$1,000.00 for each independent candidate.
<b>Electoral Management Body</b>	Is usually an independent organization responsible for administering the elections and all other matters related to elections. eg. FEO.
<b>National Register of Voters</b>	Means a register of persons entitled to vote at an election.

*Lesson*



## CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS IN FIJI



## 4.1 Learning Outcome:

By the end of this lesson students will be able to:

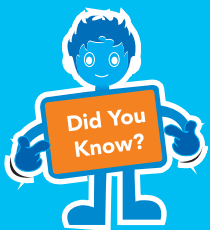
1. State the section in the Fijian constitution relating to free and fair elections;
2. List the main steps involved in casting a vote;
3. Describe how to mark a Ballot Paper in Fiji; and
4. Describe how the counting process works and how to determine the threshold.

## 4.2 Introduction

A democratic election is the single biggest logistical event in peacetime and it occurs in a highly charged environment. The FEO has a hard but very important job to ensure all competing candidates and parties and supporters exercise their rights and responsibilities in a safe, fair and free environment.

Section 52 of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji states that members of Parliament should be chosen by secret Ballot in free and fair elections.

## 4.3 Important Electoral Processes



Voting starts at 7:30am and must immediately close after the last voter in the queue at 6:00pm has voted.

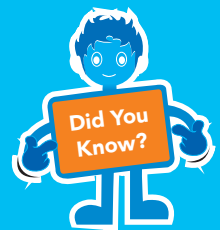
### 4.3.1 Election Day

Election Day in Fiji is a public holiday to allow everyone access to a Polling Venue so they are able to exercise their democratic right to vote.



Election Day

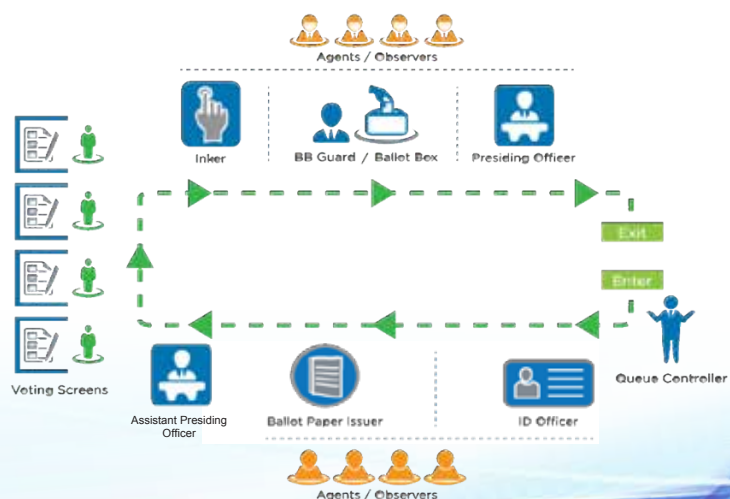
The Polling Venues are advertised several months in advance, so voters know which polling venue they can or should attend.



Those people who are unable to Vote on Election Day can Vote during Pre-Poll Voting or by Postal Voting

### 4.3.2 Polling Station Set Up

While the Polling Station is set up considering various factors such as space and resource availability, below is a diagram of an ideal set up.








11-10-2018 Ver. 1.1








Complete the following activities.

1. Matching Exercise- Match the voting steps with the photos by drawing a line.

<p><b>STEP 1</b></p> <p><b>Venue Queue Control:</b> When you enter the Polling Venue, you will be directed to your correct Polling Station by the Venue Queue Controller. You will now proceed to your Polling Station.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 2</b></p> <p><b>Inside Queue Control:</b> When you enter the Polling Station the Inside Queue Controller will check your finger for ink before giving you the Voter Instruction Booklet. You will now proceed to the ID Officer.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 3</b></p> <p><b>Identification:</b> When you reach the ID Officer you will have to show your VoterCard or valid photo ID to ID Officer. The ID Officer will confirm your ID before drawing a line to join the two (2) arrowheads in the check off column of the Voter List.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 4</b></p> <p><b>Signature:</b> You will be required to sign the Voter List in the 'Signature' column. You will now proceed to the Ballot Paper Issuer.</p>	
	



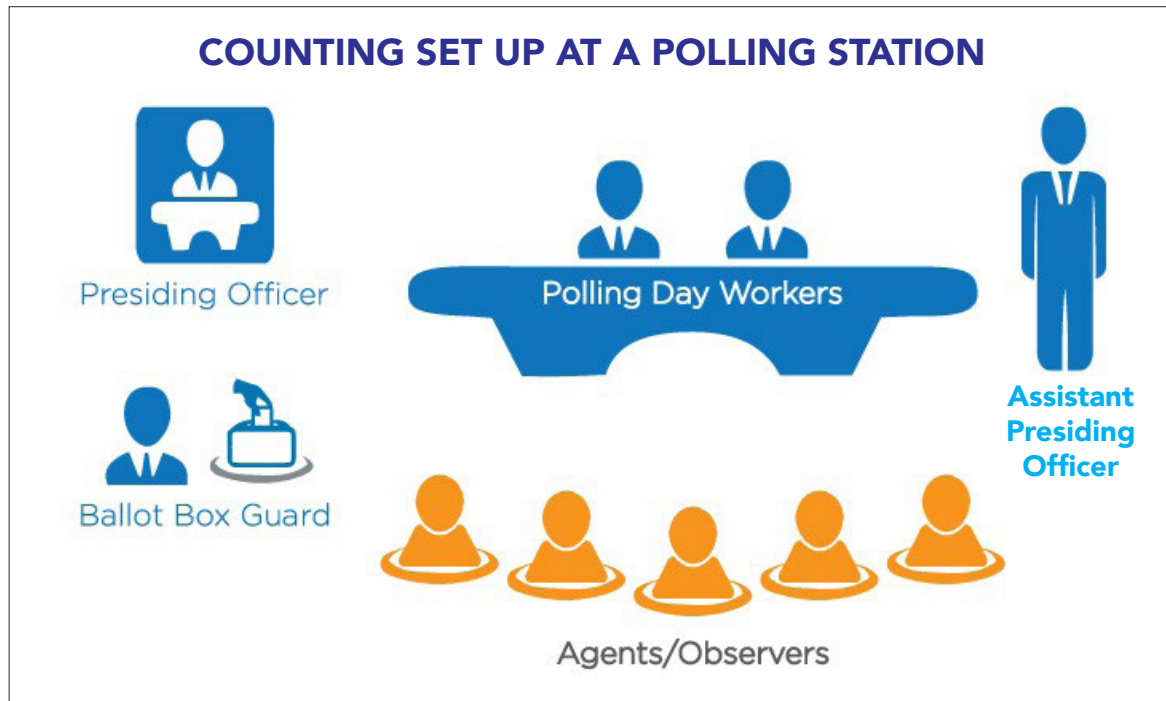
; a line between the correct steps and matching photo.

<p><b>STEP 5</b></p> <p><b>Issuing the Ballot Paper:</b> The Ballot Paper Issuer will explain to you the method of marking the Ballot Paper and give you one (1) Ballot Paper. You will now proceed to the voting screen.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 6</b></p> <p><b>Marking the Ballot Paper:</b> At the voting screen you will look through the Voter Instruction Booklet to identify the number of the candidate you would like to vote for. You must CIRCLE or TICK or CROSS the number on the Ballot Paper and fold the Ballot Paper into four (4). You will now proceed to the Inker.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 7</b></p> <p><b>Inking:</b> The Inker will mark your index finger or little finger on the left hand by dipping it in the ink bottle. You will now proceed to the Ballot Box.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 8</b></p> <p><b>Placing Ballot Paper in Ballot Box:</b> You must put your Ballot Paper in the Ballot Box.</p>	
<p><b>STEP 9</b></p> <p><b>Leaving Polling Station and Polling Venue:</b> You can now leave Polling Station and Polling Venue.</p>	

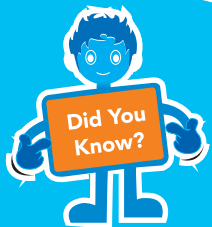
### 4.3.3 Counting of Ballot Papers

In Fiji, on Election Day all Ballot Papers for each Polling Station are counted immediately after the close of poll in the Polling Station.

Pre-poll votes and postal votes are counted in the National Count Centre on Election night.



## 4.4 Ballot Paper



In 2017, the FEO introduced Touch Screen Voting Machine [TSVM] for Trade Union Elections.

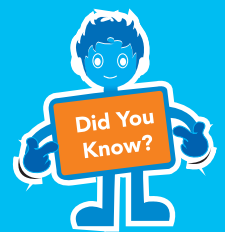


A Ballot Paper is a piece of paper which is used by a voter to indicate their preferred candidate or party.

Ballot Papers differ greatly from country to country, according to the voting system used and other factors (such as literacy of the voters).

Some places do not use Ballot Papers, but use voting machines or computers to cast their votes.

In Fiji, the Ballot Paper features a series of three digit numbers in column range. Each candidate is allocated a number (which is called the candidates number). The voter needs to either circle, tick or cross the number of the candidate for whom the voter wants to vote for.



The first number to feature on the Ballot Paper in Fiji is determined by a ball draw where a blind folded person picks up three balls (which are marked with numbers) from a barrel.



# 2014 GENERAL ELECTION

Ballot paper for the election of Members of Parliament



CIRCLE ☐ TICK ☒ OR CROSS ☒ THE NUMBER OF THE CANDIDATE YOU WISH TO VOTE FOR

DO NOT CIRCLE, TICK OR CROSS MORE THAN ONE NUMBER

135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149
150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164
165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179
180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194
195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209
210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224
225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239
240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254
255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269
270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284
285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299
300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314
315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329
330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344
345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359
360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374
375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389
390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404
405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419
420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434

## 4.5 Working Out the Threshold

By law, independent candidates or parties must receive 5% of the total votes cast to win a seat in the parliament. This is called the 'threshold'.

Threshold is calculated by using the following formula:

$$\text{Threshold} = \text{Total number of votes cast} \times 0.05$$

### Example:

1. What is the threshold if the total number of votes cast were 500,000?

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Threshold} &= 500,000 \times 0.05 \\ &= 25,000 \text{ votes}\end{aligned}$$

2. If Party A received 30,000 votes will they qualify to win a seat in the parliament?

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Threshold} &= 25,000 \text{ votes} \\ \text{Votes received by Party A} &= 30,000 \text{ votes}\end{aligned}$$

$$30,000 > 25,000$$

Since votes received by Party A is greater than the threshold, Party A is qualified to win a seat in the parliament.



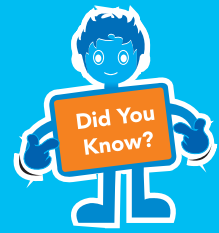
**Answer the following.**

1. Calculate the threshold if the total number of votes cast is:
  - a. 200
  - b. 700,000
  - c. 1,000,000
2. What would the threshold be if, in the next General Election there are 600,000 votes casted?



## 4.6 Fiji's Government and Parliament

The Parliament of Fiji is the unicameral legislature. It consists of 51 members (plus a speaker) elected every 4 years using open-list proportional representation in one multi-member nationwide constituency. The parliament is led by the Prime Minister of Fiji, who is the leader of the largest party of Government.



The President is the head of state of Fiji. The President is appointed by the Parliament of Fiji for a three-year term. The President's role in government is mostly ceremonial, but there are important reserve powers that may be exercised in the event of a crisis. In addition, the President is Commander-in-Chief of the Military Forces.



Answer the following.

1. How many seats are there in the Fiji Parliament?
2. How many seats must a party win to be able to form Government?

## 4.7 Election Stakeholders

An election is a national process where multiple stakeholders are involved. Each having a different role to play.

Try filling in the roles for election stakeholders in the table below.

Election Stakeholder	Role in An Election
Voters – Living in Fiji	
Voters – Living Outside of Fiji	



Voters – people with disabilities	
Election Officials	
Candidates	
Journalists/Media	
Election Observers	
Polling Agents	
Security Forces/Police	
Presiding Officer	
Assistant Presiding Officer	
Polling Day Workers	

## 4.8 Making Elections Accessible

The right to vote is one of the most fundamental rights of Fijian citizens. It is not only about taking part in the political process, but about being included in society and having our voices heard.

However, in many countries some groups of people are denied this right to vote, due to the fact that national elections are not accessible for them.

Some examples of these groups of people are

- election staff
- voters abroad
- absentee voters
- refugees and internally displaced persons
- nomads and migrants
- voters in remote areas
- minorities (such as: homeless, or LGBTIQ i.e. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Questioning individuals)
- disabled people (physical and intellectual disabilities)
- illiterate or low literacy
- home and hospital bound voters
- prisoners
- security forces
- women
- young and first time voters



Fill in the blanks in this paragraph. Use words from the Word Box below.

**Station | invalid | vote | Voter | Ballot | once**

In order to vote in an election a person must be 18 years of age and their name must be on the National Register of Voters. If a person is registered to vote, they will receive a ..... Card. The purpose of VoterCard is to allow a person to be identified when they go to vote and to make sure that they only vote once. To try to ..... more than ..... is an offence. At the Polling ....., which is usually a school or a community centre a Ballot Paper is given to each person who arrives to vote. Care is needed when filling out a ..... Paper because if it is not filled out properly it means the vote will not be counted, i.e. because it is an ..... vote.

## Extension Activity 1



Go to the FEO website on [www.votereducation.feo.org.fj](http://www.votereducation.feo.org.fj), explore and then try to list down all the disability friendly features that you found.

Send it to the FEO by email on [voter.edu@feo.org.fj](mailto:voter.edu@feo.org.fj) for it to be featured on the FEO Voter Education Website [www.votereducation.feo.org.fj](http://www.votereducation.feo.org.fj) and Facebook Page.

## Glossary

<b>Accessible</b>	Accessibility refers to the design of products, devices, services, or environments for people who experience disabilities, or who are disadvantaged because of their circumstances or characteristics. If a process and or place is 'accessible' it is easy for EVERYONE to reach it and understand it.
<b>Ballot</b>	To choose between a number of options; to cast one's vote on an issue. Another word for Ballot is 'election'.
<b>Bicameral Parliament</b>	Has two chambers or rooms
<b>Ballot box</b>	The marked Ballot Papers go in a Ballot Box.
<b>Ballot Paper</b>	The piece of paper you receive at a Polling Station where you choose the candidate you want to vote for. Marked Ballot Paper should not be shown to anyone else.
<b>Marginalised People</b>	People who are disadvantaged or excluded from society due to their sex, social class, race, ethnic group, skin colour, religious affiliation, ethnic origin, educational status, childhood relationships, living standards, sexual identity or preference, or appearance.
<b>Media</b>	The main ways for disseminating information to a large number of people and includes journalists and other public communicators and communication technologies such as television, radio, newspapers, the internet and mobile phones that provide news and information to the public.
<b>Pre-Poll Voting</b>	For voters unable to vote on Polling Day, there are advance Polling Stations where you can vote a few days before the election.
<b>Postal Vote</b>	For voters unable to vote on Election Day, voters can register to send and receive their votes by post.
<b>Presiding Officer</b>	An Election Official in charge of a Polling Station at an election.
<b>Secret Ballot</b>	A Ballot/vote in which votes are cast in secret (i.e. no one can see who you vote for).
<b>Single and multi-member constituency</b>	A single-member district or single-member constituency is an electoral district that returns one officeholder to a body with multiple members such as a legislature. The alternative are multi-member districts, or the election of a body by the whole electorate voting as one constituency.
<b>Stakeholder</b>	A person who has a 'stake' or interest, in a particular process.
<b>Threshold</b>	Is the minimum percentage or amount of the vote which a candidate or political party requires to achieve before they become entitled to any representation in a legislature.
<b>Unicameral Parliament</b>	Has one chamber or room

# *Lesson*



## MOCK ELECTION





## 5.1 Learning Outcome:

**By the end of this lesson students will be able to:**

1. Explain the main steps, equipment, layout of a Polling Station;
2. Describe the experiences as a voter and/or a Polling Day Worker [PDW];
3. Explain the need to keep the Polling Station politically neutral;
4. Explain the need to follow procedures; and
5. Explain how counting works in Fiji and how votes are translated into parliamentary seats.

## 5.2 Introduction

The teacher will facilitate this mock election for you to get a hands-on experience on what it is to be a PDW, Observer, Polling Agent, Media or voter.

Students are required to fully concentrate during this activity and follow all the necessary procedures as per teacher's direction.

## 5.3 Complete Before Election Day

### 5.3.1 Tick My Role:

- ☐ Student Supervisor of Elections (SSoE)
- ☐ Presiding Officer
- ☐ Queue Controller (QC)
- ☐ Identification Officer (IO)
- ☐ Ballot Paper Issuer (BPI)
- ☐ Inking officer (I)
- ☐ Ballot Box Guard (BBG)
- ☐ Journalist
- ☐ Polling Agent
- ☐ Election Observer
- ☐ Voter

1. Describe what you will do on Election Day:

.....

.....

.....

## 5.4 Mock Election Day Voting Steps for Voters

During Election	
Step	Voting Process
1	Teacher's role during election: the teacher can perform the role of the PO, or will support the SSoE and PO in performing their roles. The teacher needs to manage the general flow and momentum of the mock election, keep it moving and manage the students so the process is not too noisy, unruly or slow. The PO and/or teacher may need help from other teachers to manage the student voters who will be standing outside the Polling Station before and after the election.
2	Voters make a queue outside of the Polling Station.
3	<p>The PO should announce that the Polling Station is open by reading the following script:</p> <p><b><i>I name of the PQ, as the Presiding Officer for this Polling Station hereby declare that this Polling Station is open for voting.</i></b></p>
4	<p>Once the PO announces that the Polling Station is open the voters will one by one go to the Queue Controller, who will greet the voters and check the voter's hands for any traces of indelible or permanent marker markings.</p> <p>This is what the Queue Controller will say to all voters who comes to him/her:</p> <p><b><i>Bula!!! How are you Sir/Madam? Can I check your hands for any indelible or permanent marker markings please?</i></b></p> <p>After this the voter will show the Queue Controller their hands.</p>
5	<p>If there is no trace of indelible or permanent marker markings then the Queue Controller will issue one (1) Voter Instruction Booklet to the voter.</p> <p>The Queue Controller will say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Thank you Sir/Madam. Here is a copy of your Voter Instruction Booklet. You will have to refer to this in order to see which candidate you are voting for. You can now go to the Identification Officer.</i></b></p>
6	The voter will now go to the Identification Officer.

7	<p>The Identification Officer will greet the voter and ask for the voter's Voter Identification Card.</p> <p>The Identification Officer will say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Bula!!! Can I have your Voter Identification Card please?</i></b></p> <p>The voter will now give his/her Voter Identification Card to the Identification Officer.</p>
8	<p>The Identification Officer will look for the voter's name on the Voter List and once found will join the two (2) arrowheads in the check column by using a blue or black pen.</p>
9	<p>The Identification Officer will ask the voter to sign next to his/her name.</p> <p>The Identification Officer will say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Sir/Madam kindly requesting if you can sign here (by pointing where to sign)</i></b></p> <p>The voter will then sign accordingly.</p>
10	<p>The Identification Officer will return the voter's Voter Identification Card and direct the voter to the Ballot Paper Issuer.</p> <p>The Identification Officer will now say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Thank you, here is your Voter Identification Card, now you can go to the Ballot Paper Issuer to get your Ballot Paper.</i></b></p> <p>The voter now goes to the Ballot Paper Issuer.</p>
11	<p>The Ballot Paper Issuer will greet the voter and give one (1) Ballot Paper to the voter telling him/her that they can go to the Voting Screen have a look at the Voter Instruction Booklet and either circle, tick or cross the number of candidate on the Ballot Paper that the voter wants to vote for.</p> <p>The Ballot Paper Issuer will say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Bula!!! Here is your Ballot Paper. You will have to go to the Voting Screen, refer to the Voter Instruction Booklet and either tick, circle or cross the number of candidate that you wish to vote for.</i></b></p> <p>The Ballot Paper Issuer will also tell the voter that after marking the Ballot Paper fold it into half and go to the Inking Officer.</p> <p>The Ballot Paper Issuer will also tell the voter:</p> <p><b><i>After marking your Ballot Paper fold it into half and go to the Inking Officer.</i></b></p> <p>The voter will now go to the Voting Screen.</p>
12	<p>The voter will mark the Ballot Paper by either circling, ticking or crossing the number of candidate the voter wants to vote for.</p>

13	After marking the Ballot Paper the voter will fold the Ballot Paper into half and proceed to the Inking Officer.
14	<p>The Inking Officer will greet the voter and ask the voter to hold his/her Ballot Paper, Voter Instruction Booklet and Voter Identification Card in right hand. The Inking Officer will say the following to the voter:</p> <p><b><i>Bula!!!</i></b>  <b><i>Sir/Madam kindly requesting if you can hold your Ballot Paper, Voter Instruction Booklet and Voter Identification Card in your right hand.</i></b></p>
15	<p>The Inking Officer will ask for the voter's left hand index or little finger:</p> <p><b><i>Sir/ Madam can I have your left index or little finger so that I can mark it with Permanent Marker.</i></b></p> <p>The Inking Officer would now mark the left index or little finger using a permanent marker.</p>
16	<p>The Inking Officer will now direct the voter to the Ballot Box by saying the following:</p> <p><b><i>Sir/Madam thank you for getting your finger marked. Now you can go to the Ballot Box and place your Ballot Paper inside the Ballot Box.</i></b></p> <p>The voter will go to the Ballot Box.</p>
17	<p>As soon as the voter reaches to the Ballot Box, the Ballot Box Guard will greet the voter and ask for the Voter Instruction Booklet from the voter and put it aside.</p> <p><b><i>Bula!!!</i></b>  <b><i>Just before you cast your vote, kindly requesting if you can give back the Voter Instruction Booklet to me please.</i></b></p> <p>The voter will give his/her Voter Instruction Booklet to the Ballot Box Guard who will keep it aside.</p>
18	<p>The Ballot Box Guard will now ask the voter to place only the Ballot Paper in the Ballot Box and not any other materials such as Voter Identification Card:</p> <p><b><i>Sir/Madam, now you can place your Ballot Paper in the Ballot Box. Make sure you do not put the Voter Identification Card in the Ballot Box.</i></b></p>
19	The voter will now place only the Ballot Paper in the Ballot Box.
20	<p>After the voter has placed his/her Ballot Paper in the Ballot Box. The Ballot Box Guard will direct the voter to the exiting door.</p> <p><b><i>Thank you for voting Sir/Madam. Now you can exit from this door (pointing towards the door).</i></b></p> <p>The voter will go out through the exit door.</p>
21	<p>Once all the voters have voted the PO will declare that the Polling Station is closed by reading out the following to all:</p> <p><b><i>I <u>name of the PO</u>, as the Presiding Officer for this Polling Station hereby declare that this Polling Station closed.</i></b></p>



## 5.5 Whom You Can Vote For?

There are three major parties and each party has ten candidates. Look at the Candidates List and decide which candidate you would like to vote for.

### MOCK ELECTION CANDIDATES LIST



**101**



**105**



**108**



**112**



**113**



**118**



**120**



**121**



**125**



**127**



**102**



**103**



**107**



**109**



**115**



**117**



**122**



**123**



**126**



**130**



**104**



**106**



**110**



**111**



**114**



**116**



**119**



**124**



**128**



**129**



## 5.6 Complete After Election Finishes

1. How did you feel after voting?

.....

.....

.....

2. List down five (5) new things that you learned after this exercise.

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3. What activities or further learning could you now do as a class based on your election experience? .....

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## 5.7 Seat Allocation

After the counting is finished the PO will photocopy the **Protocol of Results**. The photo copied **Protocol of Results** will be pasted on the school notice board and the original copy will be given to the SSoE by the PO.

The SSoE will then prepare a **Results Tally**. The teacher would either paste the **Results Tally** on the black or white board or photocopy and give it to you so that you can work out the seat allocation for your election. Remember for this election there are ten (10) seats in the parliament.

Now, follow the instructions and complete the **Seat Allocation Worksheet** to figure out:

1. Which party won the election?
2. Who are the candidates elected to the parliament?

# MOCK ELECTION

## SEAT ALLOCATION WORKSHEET

### STEP 1

Refer to the Results Tally and fill out this form.

Name of Parties	Fruit Party	Vegetable Party	Root Crop Party	Invalid Votes
Total number of votes received				

### STEP 2

Calculate whether the Parties have achieved the 5% threshold.

The steps to calculate this are as follows:

- Add the total number of votes for each party plus (+) any invalid votes to calculate the Total Number of Votes Cast.

i.e

**Total Number of Votes Cast** = total votes received by Fruit Party + total votes received by Vegetable Party + total votes received by Root Crop Party + total invalid votes.

Show calculations here

ii. Once this is done you will find 5% of the total votes by using this formula:

$$\text{Threshold} = \text{Total Number of Votes Cast} \times 0.05$$

Show calculations here



**Note:** If the threshold is not a whole number round it to the nearest whole number.

iii. Now you will have to see which Party has received votes which are less than the threshold.

Parties receiving less than the threshold will be eliminated and thus not be allowed to have any seats in the parliament (*Try and find out why*). Fill out the table below.



**Note:** In this table if  $A > B$  the Party can get a seat in the parliament but if  $A < B$  the Party will be eliminated for not reaching the threshold.

	A	B		
Party	Number of votes Recieved (from Step 1 above)	Threshold Value (from Step 2.ii)	Write whether $A > B$ or $A < B$	Eliminated/ Not Eliminated
Fruit Party				
Vegetable Party				
Root Crop Party				

### STEP 3

The seat in parliament is allocated using the D'Hondt method.



Fiji uses a form of proportional representation called 'd'Hondt', named after a system devised by Victor D'Hondt, a Belgian lawyer and mathematician active in the 19th Century. He explained his system in 'Système pratique et raisonné de représentation proportionnelle' in 1882. It is also known as the Jefferson's method and Bader-Ofer method.

You will divide the total number of votes each party has received by the divisors (1 to 10) on the first column.

After this is done for all Parties highlight the cells of the light blue region of the table that has the ten (10) highest numbers. See the Allocation of Seats video, which is in your resource CD if you are confused.

Divisors	Fruit Party	Vegetable Party	Root Crop Party
<i>T</i>	<i>Write the total number of votes received by this Party</i>	<i>Write the total number of votes received by this Party</i>	<i>Write the total number of votes received by this Party</i>
1	<i>T divide by 1</i>	<i>T divide by 1</i>	<i>T divide by 1</i>
2	<i>T divide by 2</i>	<i>T divide by 2</i>	<i>T divide by 2</i>
3	<i>T divide by 3</i>	<i>T divide by 3</i>	<i>T divide by 3</i>
4	<i>T divide by 4</i>	<i>T divide by 4</i>	<i>T divide by 4</i>
5	<i>T divide by 5</i>	<i>T divide by 5</i>	<i>T divide by 5</i>
6	<i>T divide by 6</i>	<i>T divide by 6</i>	<i>T divide by 6</i>
7	<i>T divide by 7</i>	<i>T divide by 7</i>	<i>T divide by 7</i>
8	<i>T divide by 8</i>	<i>T divide by 8</i>	<i>T divide by 8</i>
9	<i>T divide by 9</i>	<i>T divide by 9</i>	<i>T divide by 9</i>
10	<i>T divide by 10</i>	<i>T divide by 10</i>	<i>T divide by 10</i>
<b>No. of cells highlighted</b>			

Each highlighted cell represents one seat in parliament i.e.

*Number of cells highlighted per party= Number of seats per party*



**Note:** There are ten (10) seats in parliament for this mock election.

## STEP 4

Now after counting the number of highlighted cells fill this table in descending order of number of seats.

Party Name	Number of Seats



## STEP 5

Now go back to the Results Tally and pick out the number of candidates (which is equal to the number of seats that their party has won) who have received the highest votes under their respective Parties and list them in the following table.

[illegible]

# Fruit Party



 <b>Vegetable Party</b>			
 <b>Root Crop Party</b>			

Congratulations you have successfully completed your Mock Election.



## 5.8 After a General Election

In reality, after a General Election has finished and all other process are completed, the *Writ* is returned to the President of the Republic of Fiji by the Electoral Commission.



**Answer the following.**

1. Which electoral official roles are the most important in an election and why?

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2. Which voting steps are the most important in an election and why?

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3. What could you do if someone tries to influence how you vote?

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## REFLECTIONS & EVALUATION



## My Reflections On Voting And Elections

1. How could Fiji's electoral system and processes be improved?

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2. I am going to register to vote when I turn 18 because .....

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3. I am going to vote in the next General Election because .....

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.....

4. I would like to work as a PDW because .....

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5. I would like/not like to become a candidate because .....

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.....



# Self-Evaluation

Think about how well you worked, both in small-group activities and independently. Reflect on your contributions and strengths, and areas worthy of your attention. Complete the following table by placing a tick in the correct column for each description.

Overall, how well did I:

	Need Improvement	Moderate	High
Work with others to plan group activities and perform in my allocated role?			
Work independently?			
Contribute to class discussions?			
Organise and record information during my study?			
Use learning time throughout my study of this module?			

Having thought about what you have learned, how you have managed new ideas and information, and how you worked with others, answer the following questions.

1. How did the ideas in the module compare with your existing knowledge of elections?

2. What strategies were the most useful in helping you organise new ideas and information?

3. What topic did you think was most important and why?

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4. How would you go about finding out more about these topics?

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5. Will you use the skills you have learned in your everyday life? How?

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*Congratulations you have completed this module*

## Acknowledgements

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