

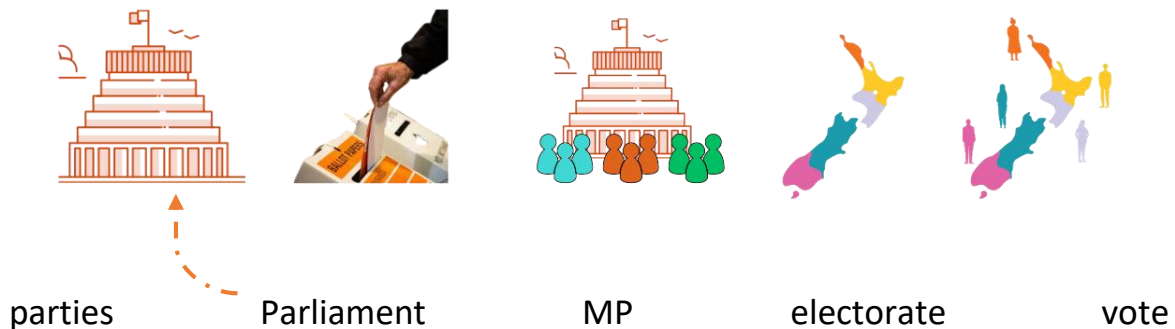
New Zealand 2026 General Election

Discuss with your partner.

- Who's the Prime Minister now?
- What is a general election?
- Can you vote?



Match the words with the pictures.



New Zealand's Parliament is in Wellington. In Parliament, there is the Government.

Every 3 years New Zealand has a general election. We choose a new government.

People vote for:

- The party they like and
- A person to speak for them (MP) in the area where they live (electorate).

The 2026 General Election is taking place between

Monday 26 October & Saturday 7 November 2026.

33

YOU HAVE 2 VOTES

PARTY VOTE	ELECTORATE VOTE
Vote for only one party Explanation: This vote decides the share of seats which each of the parties listed below will have in Parliament. Vote by putting a tick in the circle immediately after the party you choose. TE PĀTI NIKAU RODPU KAURI TE PĀTI KŌHĀRI CLEMATIS COALITION TIHOKHOTANGA TŌHARA ORIANA MĀNGA TE PĀTI PŌHUTUKURA FLAX ALLIANCE THE FERN PARTY KŌTĀHANGA RIMU TE PĀTI PŌKOPORO WINEBERRY LEAGUE	Vote for only one candidate Explanation: This vote decides the candidate who will be elected Member of Parliament for the Otago electorate. Vote by putting a tick in the circle immediately before the candidate you choose. ATKIN, Joanne BEACH, Peter DEVINE, Shirley HOOK, Mike KURAN, Michael LSL, Phil LOWRY, Frank PALESA, Aimi TIPI-COOPER, Elizabeth

Answer these questions.

1. Where is the Parliament?

2. When is the 2026 General Election?

3. How many votes do you have?



ENROL TO VOTE

You **MUST** enrol if you



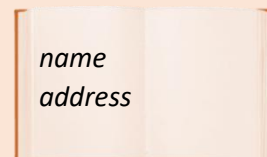
- are **18 years** or older



- are a **NZ citizen** or **permanent resident** (resident or permanent resident visa) **AND**



- have lived in New Zealand for **more than 1 year** continuously



After you **enrol**, your name and address will be on the **electoral roll**.

NEW!! Last day to enrol: 25 October.

You have to enrol BEFORE the election starts (26 October).

5 ways to enrol:

1. Enrol online at **vote.nz**.
2. Complete a form online → receive the form → sign → send back.
3. Download a form from **vote.nz** → print out → fill → sign → send back.
4. Text your name and address to 3676 (it's free!)
5. Call free 0800 36 76 56

Find the words on this page to complete this table. Write your own words that start with G, J and K.

A ddress _____	H _____	O _____	V _____
B _____	I _____	P _____	W _____
C _____	J _____	Q _____	X _____
D _____	K _____	R _____	Y _____
E _____	L _____	S _____	
F _____	M _____	T _____	
G _____	N _____	U _____	

Match the pictures with the words.



fill

vote

passport

driver licence

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

licence

fill

passport

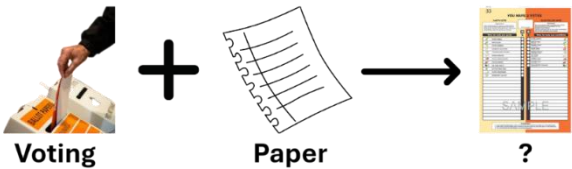
vote

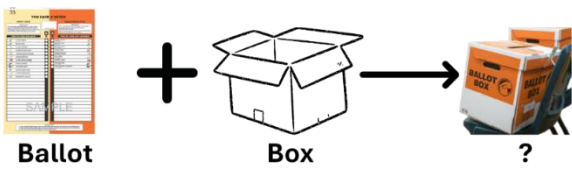
Way to enrol	Online 
Can I enrol?	Are you 18 years or older? ☐ Yes ☐ No Are you a NZ citizen or permanent resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No Have you been in NZ for more than 12 months continuously? ☐ Yes ☐ No
What do I do now?	Go to 1. _____ .nz

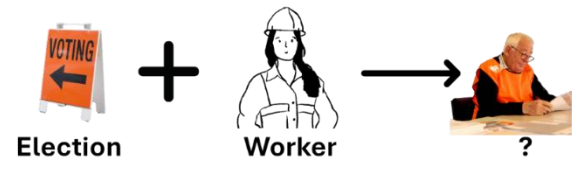
Step 1	Click on 'enrol to vote'. Use your NZ driver 2. _____ or NZ 3. _____.
Step 2	4. _____ the form.

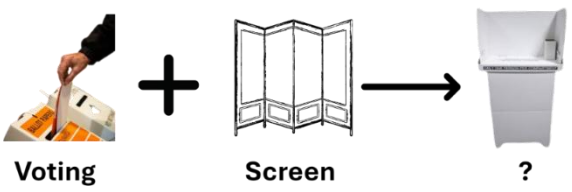
HOW TO VOTE

A word can be made by combining two words. What are the words on the right?









Match the words with the pictures.

- voting paper
ballot box
vote
election worker
voting screen
EasyVote card



1. _____



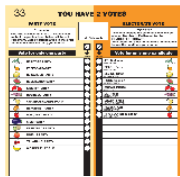
2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____

Match these sentences with the pictures (1-11) on page 6.

You have **two votes**,

An **election worker** will ask for your name and address.

Voting starts on **October 26**.

You can vote without an **EasyVote card**, but it will take longer.

You can vote from **October 26** to **November 7**.

Take your **EasyVote card** with you.

Take it behind a **voting screen**. Your vote is secret.

Put it in the **ballot box**.

On **election day**, you can vote at a **voting place** between 9am and 7pm.

They will give you a **voting paper**.

When you finish, fold the paper in half.

Answer these questions with information from the text.

1. When and where can you vote?

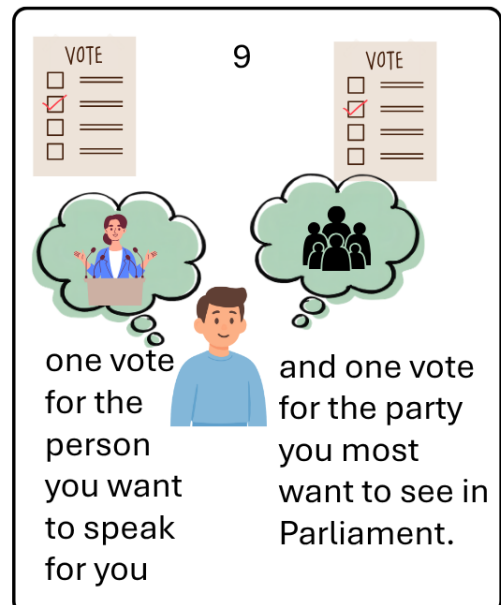
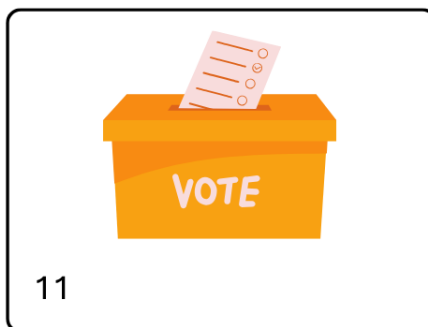
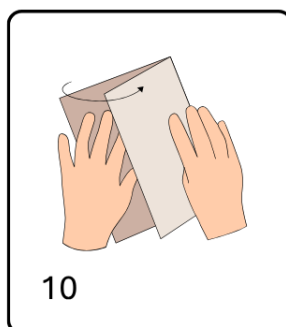
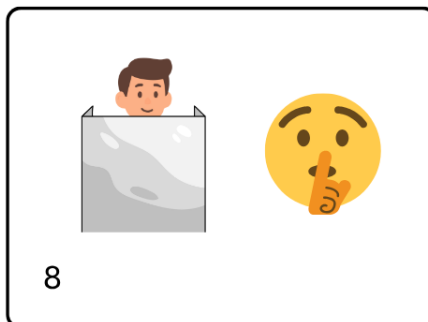
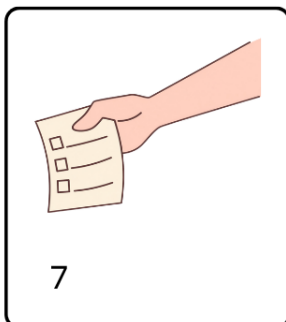
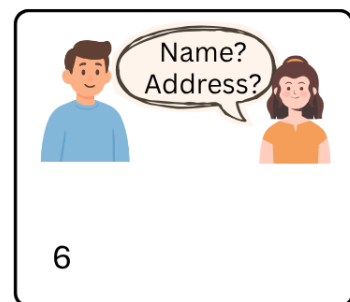
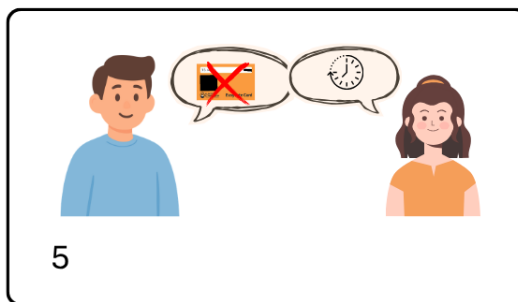
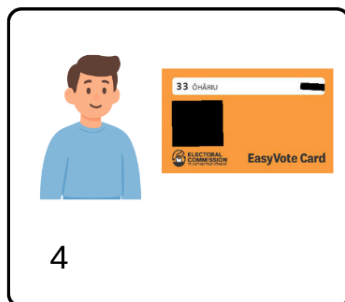
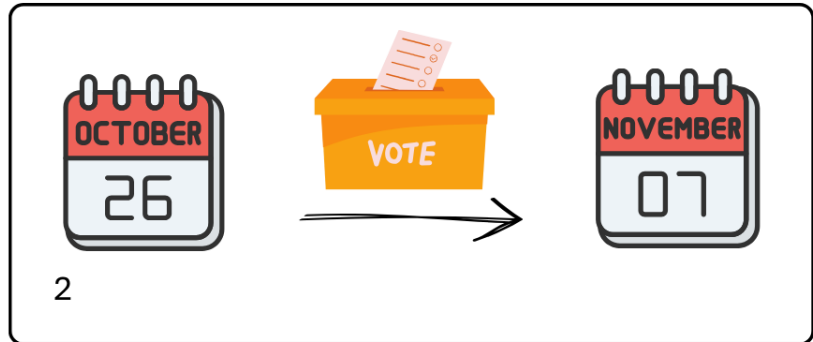
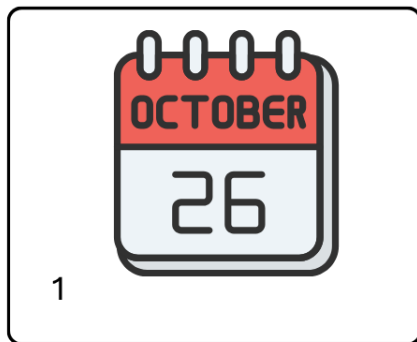
2. On election day, what time can you vote?

3. What do you bring with you to the voting place?

4. Can you vote without an EasyVote card?

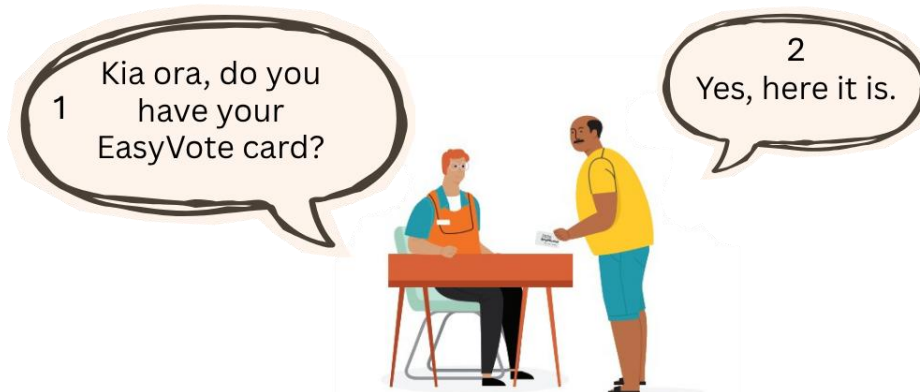
5. How many votes do you have?

6. After you finish, where do you put your voting paper?



AT THE VOTING PLACE

If you have an **EasyVote card**, show it to the **election worker**.



If you don't have your **EasyVote card**, you can vote but it will take longer.



The **election worker** checks your information on the **electoral roll**.



The **election worker** will give you a **voting paper**.



Take your **voting paper** to the **voting screen**.

Your vote is secret.

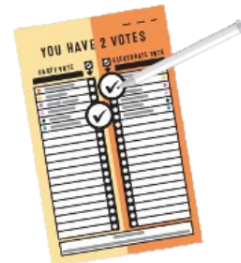
You can't use your phone or take photos behind the **voting screen**.



Follow the instructions on the paper.

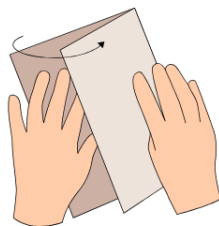
Put a tick (✓) next to the:

- Party you want to be the New Zealand Government.
- The person you want to represent your electorate.



After you finish marking your **voting paper**,

Fold the **voting paper** in half.



Put your **voting paper** in the **ballot box**.



Role play this situation: **You have enrolled and have your EasyVote card.**

Election worker: Kia ora! Do you have your _____?

You: _____.

Election worker: Can you tell me your _____ and _____?

You: _____.

Election worker: Here's your _____.

You: _____.

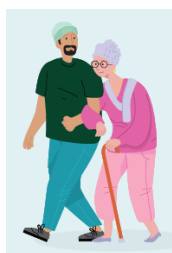


SUPPORT PERSON

A support person is someone who helps you enrol and vote.

Listen to this story about Lana.

Answer the questions about a support person on the next page.



Lana doesn't speak English well. She asks Paul, her son, to be her support person. Paul goes with Lana to the voting place. Paul translates for her. Paul reads out the names on the voting paper for her. He doesn't tell Lana who she should vote for. After that, Paul shows Lana which ballot box to put her voting paper into. Paul never tells anyone who Lana chooses because it's a secret.

Who can be your support person? Tick (✓) the correct answers.

- ☐ A friend
- ☐ A family member
- ☐ An election worker
- ☐ Your teacher
- ☐ Your neighbour
- ☐ Your classmate
- ☐ Your workmate

You can take a support person with you when you vote. What can they do? Tick (✓) the correct answers.

- ☐ Go behind the voting screen with you
- ☐ Read out the words on your voting paper
- ☐ Tick the options you want for you if you can't write
- ☐ Tell you who you should vote for
- ☐ Tell you not to choose a party
- ☐ Decide for you
- ☐ Tell others who you voted for

VOCABULARY REVIEW

Reorder the letters to make correct words. The first and last letters of each word are already correct.

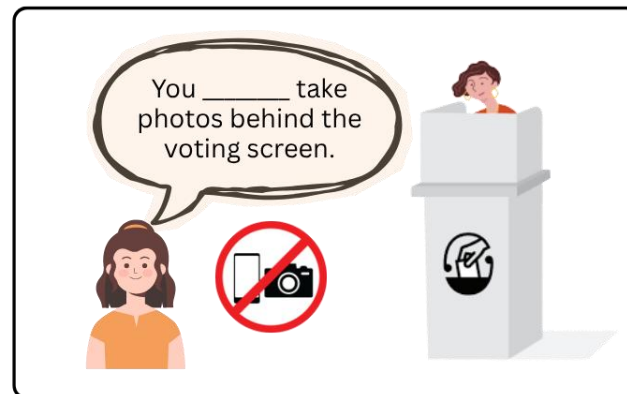
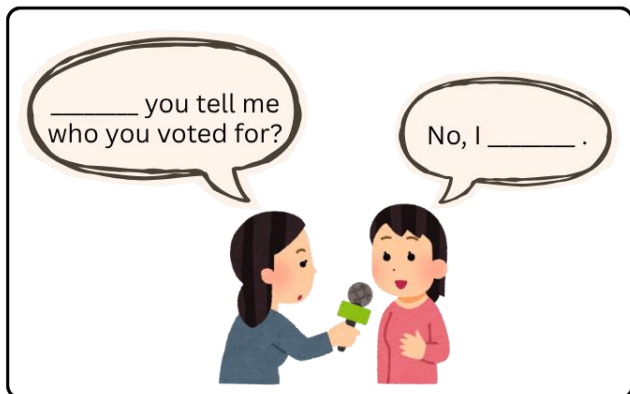
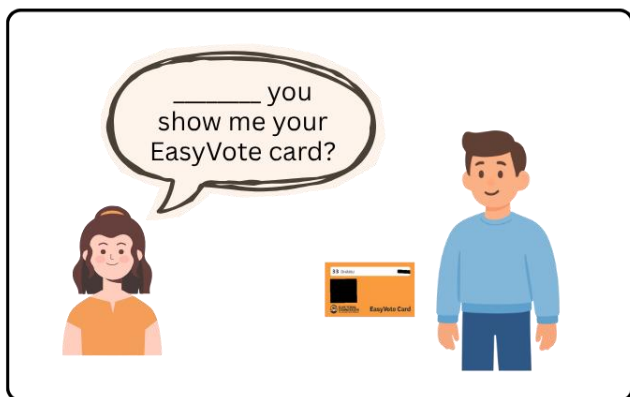
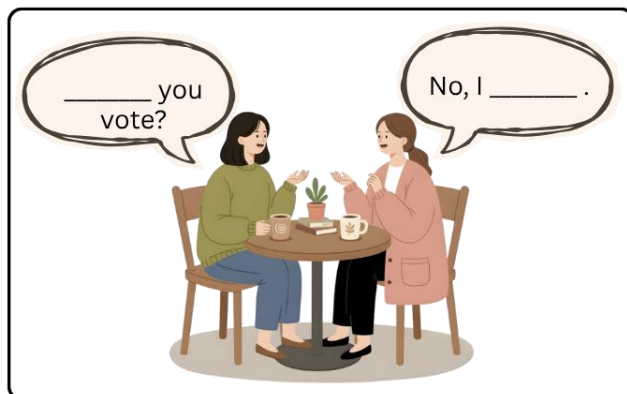
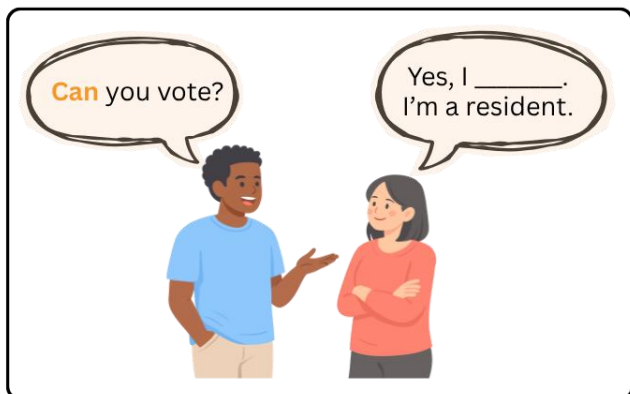
voet <u>vote</u>	Genermnovt _____	Pamrlieant _____	rlesut _____
eoitceln _____	erotceltae _____	prray _____	bollat box _____
EtoVsaye crad _____	_____	_____	_____

Can you find these words? There are 3 extra words hidden. Find them and write them in the boxes above.



GRAMMAR REVIEW

Fill the blanks with **can** or **can't**.



We have information in your language!

[Enrolment information in multiple languages](#)

WHY VOTE?

Reorder the words to make correct sentences.

Why do
you vote?



1. I / I vote / the party / like. / to support
2. the right / to vote. / I have / I vote / because
3. I vote / what / I want. / to let / know / the government
4. lose. / might / If I don't / candidate / and party / vote, / my favourite
5. better place. / to make / I vote / a / New Zealand
6. will affect / my life. / the results / because / I vote /
7. for democracy. / to show / I vote / my support

What about you? Why do you vote?

WRAP-UP

SURVEY

Answer the questions in this survey and ask three of your classmates. Write down their answers.

Questions	Have you enrolled?	What's your electorate?	Who are the candidates in your electorate?	Are you going to vote? Why/Why not?
Your answers →				

3 classmates ↓

1. _____				
2. _____				
3. _____				

Choose one classmate and write about their answers.

For example: Leo has enrolled. His electorate is Kāpiti ...

WRAP-UP QUESTIONS

Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.

1. Where is the Parliament?

2. How often do we have a General Election?

3. Can you vote?

4. When is the last day you can enrol?

5. When does voting start?

6. When is election day?

7. How many votes do you get?

8. What should you bring with you to the voting place?

9. What can and can't a support person do?

10. Where do you put your voting paper?

WANT TO
KNOW
MORE?

Watch this 2-minute video about [MMP in New Zealand](#).

Video made by the New Zealand Electoral Commission.



Step 1

Your details

Please write clearly using a blue or black pen

Questions? Please turn over for help with this form ↺

Surname or family name

First names

Date of birth
[dd/mm/yyyy]

Mobile phone number

Other phone number

Email address

Step 2

Your New Zealand address

Lived here under one month?
Turn over to do STEP 2A too ↺

Living overseas?
Leave STEP 2 blank and turn over to do STEP 2B instead ↺

Current NZ home address

New Zealand

Step 3

Your postal address

If different from current home address or if you're living overseas

Postal address

Step 4

Your roll

This is an important choice.
To learn about Māori descent and roll choice, turn over to the QUESTIONS section ↺

Please tick **ONE** statement that applies to you.

- ☐ I am of Māori descent. Please enrol me on the **Māori roll**.
- ☐ I am of Māori descent. Please enrol me on the **general roll**.
- ☐ I am not of Māori descent. (You will be enrolled on the **general roll**)

Step 5

Sign and return

Upload form at
vote.nz/upload

Email form to
enrol@vote.nz

Post form to
**Electoral Commission
Freepost 2 Enrol
PO Box 190, Wellington 6140**

I declare that:

- I am eligible to enrol at the address I provided in this application
- All the information I have provided is true and correct, and
- I understand that giving false or misleading information is a criminal offence.

Signature

Date [dd/mm/yyyy]

--

Step 2A

Have you been at your current address for less than one month?

Please fill in this step, then turn over to complete and sign your form 

When did you move into your current home address?

/	/	[dd/mm/yyyy]
---	---	--------------

What is the last address in New Zealand where you lived for one month or more?

New Zealand

Step 2B

Are you living overseas?

Please fill in this step, then turn over to complete and sign your form 

Are you a New Zealand

☐ Citizen ☐ Resident for electoral purposes

When did you last visit or live in New Zealand?

/	/	[dd/mm/yyyy]
---	---	--------------

What is the last address in New Zealand where you lived for one month or more?

New Zealand

Please turn over to complete and sign your form 

Questions? Read here

Eligibility to vote

You must enrol to vote if you live in New Zealand and are:

- 18 or older, and
- a New Zealand citizen or resident for electoral purposes, and
- have ever lived in New Zealand continuously for one year or more.

You can enrol at 17 but can't vote until you're 18.

If you live overseas, you can enrol if you're:

- a New Zealand citizen and have been in New Zealand within the last 3 years, or
- a resident for electoral purposes and have been in New Zealand within the last 12 months.

You're a **resident for electoral purposes** if you're living in New Zealand lawfully and you're not required to leave within a specified time. This includes someone on a resident visa.

If you're Australian, Cook Islander, Niuean, or Tokelauan you can enrol to vote if you've lived in New Zealand continuously for one year or more. If this applies to you, you don't need a resident visa to enrol.

Personal safety

If having your information on the published electoral roll threatens you or your family's personal safety, you can apply to go on the unpublished roll. The unpublished roll is confidential. To learn more visit us at [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)

What address should I use?

Use the address you consider to be your home. Your home address does not change if you sometimes live away from home for your work or education.

More information

If you need more information:

Visit us at [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)

Call us on **0800 36 76 56**

Māori descent and roll choice

For enrolment purposes, Māori descent means you are descended from a New Zealand Māori. This includes Chatham Island Māori, but not Cook Island Māori.

If you're of Māori descent, you can choose to enrol on the Māori roll or the general roll.

Your choice is important. The roll you choose to be on affects your electorate vote in parliamentary elections. Your roll choice does not affect your party vote.

If you're on the Māori roll, you'll vote for a candidate in a Māori electorate. If you're on the general roll, you'll vote for a candidate in a general electorate. The number of people on the Māori roll also affects the number of Māori seats in Parliament.

For local elections, if you're on the Māori roll and your council has a Māori ward or constituency, you'll vote for a candidate in the Māori ward or constituency.

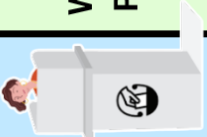
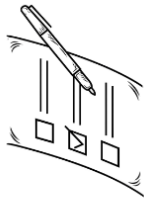
You can change the roll you're on at any time except:

- in the 3 months before a general election,
- in the 3 months before the local elections held every 3 years, and
- during a parliamentary by-election if it puts you in the electorate where the by-election is being held.

Completing the form for someone else?

You may be completing the form on behalf of someone else who is living or travelling overseas or unable to sign due to an impairment. You need an additional form from us. Call us at **0800 36 76 56** and we'll send you the form.

GENERAL ELECTION

Are you a resident?	Go forward 3 squares 	Can you vote?	What do you take with you to the voting place?	What is this? 	Can you tell me your full name and address?	How many votes do you have?
What is this? 	Go back 9 squares 	Where do you put your voting paper?	Who is this? 	What is this? 	Go back 7 squares 	Where do you put your voting paper? 
Role-play: You are your friend's support person. Help them vote.	Go back to "START" 	When is the last day to enrol?	What is this? 	When is the General Election?	Role-play: You are an election worker. Your friend is a voter.	What is this? 
FINISH	Go back 7 squares 	What is this? 	What is this? 	Where is the Parliament?	START	

TEACHER GUIDE

Click on the links or scan the QR codes to access vocabulary sets and quizzes designed for this pack.

[Quizlet](#)



[Kahoot!](#)



[Wayground](#)



HOW TO VOTE

The sentences and pictures can be cut out and jumbled up. Learners work in groups reordering the pictures and match them with the sentences.

Learners can practise explaining each picture without the sentences.

SUPPORT PERSON

Listening

Teacher reads Lana's story. Learners listen (without the script) and take notes of what Paul does and doesn't do.

VOCAB REVIEW

Can be done as a game. Teacher shows each jumbled word on the board while learners work in teams to reorder it in 30 seconds.

The word search can be organised as a racing game, either on the board or printed out in A3 and given to each team.

GRAMMAR REVIEW

Extra

Learners can write their own sentences using *can* and *can't*.

Higher level learners can be asked to write three sentences about themselves using *can* or *can't*, one of which is untrue. Learners work in pairs reading out their sentences to each other and guess which one is not true.

WHY VOTE?

Jumbled sentences

Can be done as a game. Teacher shows each jumbled sentence on the board while learners work in teams to reorder it in one minute.

Learners can be asked to tick which statements they agree with and explain why. They then write down their own reason(s) and discuss with classmates.

WRAP-UP

Survey

Learners fill the first four squares with their answers. Teacher checks their writing. Learners then walk around the classroom asking three classmates and write down their answers. Teacher supervises and checks their notes. After that, they can choose one to write about, then swap their writing with someone else for peer feedback.

Questions

The questions can be cut up into strips and given out to learners.

Learners walk around the classroom reading out their question to the one they pair up with.

After answering each other's question, they swap their questions and pair up with somebody else.

Board game

Print it out in A3 and hand them out to groups of 3 or 4.

Or show it on the board and divide the class into 2 or 3 teams.

SAMPLE VOTING PAPER

This can be used as a prop for the role-play on page 9.

KEY

MATCHING

Parliament – vote – parties – electorate - MP

READING

1. in Wellington
2. From Monday 26 October to



Saturday 7 November 2026

3. 2 votes

ENROL TO VOTE

Matching and gap-fill



licence 2



fill 4



passport 3



vote 1

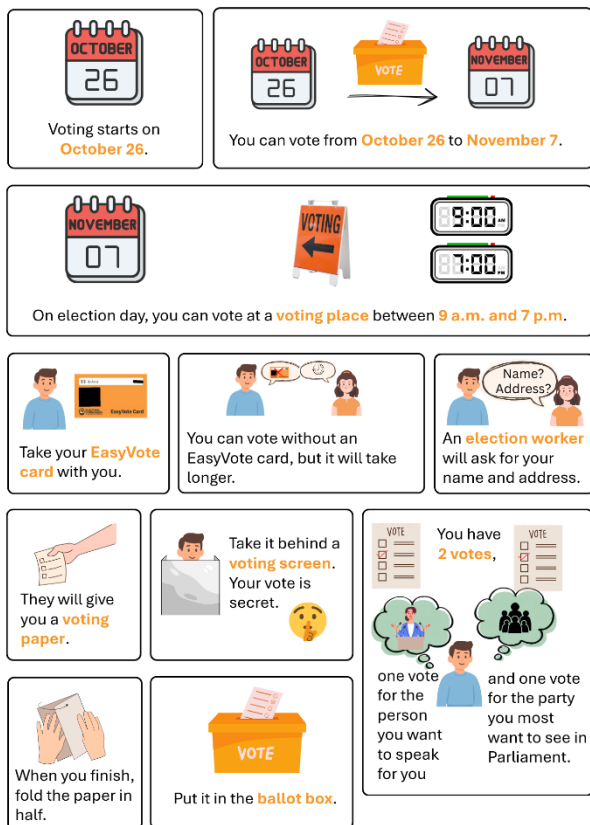
HOW TO VOTE

Compound nouns

voting paper – ballot box – election worker – voting screen

Matching

1. vote
2. EasyVote Card
3. voting screen
4. election worker
5. voting paper
6. ballot box



Reading comprehension

1. from October 26 to November 7 – a voting place
2. from 9am to 7pm
3. an Easyvote card
4. Yes, but it will take longer.
5. 2
6. in the ballot box

AT THE VOTING PLACE

Role-play

A: Kia ora! Do you have your *EasyVote Card*?

B: Yes, *here it is*.

A: Can you tell me your *full name* and *address*?

B: (*full name*) (*address*).

A: Here's your *voting paper*.

B: *Thank you*.

SUPPORT PERSON

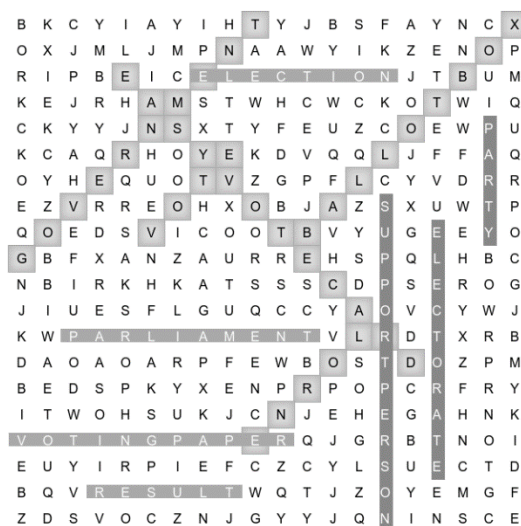
Question 1: Tick all

Question 2: Tick the first three statements

VOCABULARY REVIEW

vote / Government / Parliament / result / election / electorate / party / ballot box / EasyVote card

Extra words: voting paper / support person / enrol



GRAMMAR REVIEW

1. can
2. Can
3. can't
4. Can
5. Can
6. Can
7. can't
8. can't

WHY VOTE?

Jumbled sentences

1. I vote to support the party I like.

2. I vote because I have the right to vote.
3. I vote to let the government know what I want.
4. If I don't vote, my favourite candidate and party might lose.
5. I vote to make New Zealand a better place.
6. I vote because the results will affect my life.
7. I vote to show my support for democracy.

WRAP-UP QUESTIONS

1. in Wellington
2. Yes, I can *or* No, I can't.
3. October 25
4. October 26
5. November 7
6. at a voting place
7. 2
8. an EasyVote card
9. They can help you enrol and vote but they can't tell you who you should vote for or tell others who you voted for.
10. in a ballot box

REFERENCES

<https://vote.nz>

<https://parliament.nz>

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz>

<https://theteacherscorner.net>