

What is an Election?



Directions: Read the text about elections. Then answer the questions.

Do you like to make choices that will help people? If so, you should run in an election! People do not actually go running in an election. An **election** is a way to pick someone for public office, or a job. **Candidates** try to get a public job through an election. In this job, candidates make decisions that may affect other people.

Candidates tell everyone their ideas. They want to make life better for other people. Candidates share ideas in **interviews**. In interviews, people ask them questions, then candidates answer the questions.

Many people vote on Election Day. **Voters** pick the candidate they want by going to a voting booth in their town. People can vote on paper at the ballot box, or they can vote on a computer in a voting booth. Some people vote through the mail using a mail-in ballot, usually before Election Day.

On the **ballot**, voters mark which candidate they want. Some elections let voters pick more than one candidate. Whoever gets the most votes usually wins. Candidates get to take office after winning the job. Then candidates can start making decisions for people!

1. What is an election?

An election is a way to pick someone for public office.

2. When do voters pick a candidate?

Voters pick a candidate on Election Day, or by sending a mail-in ballot, usually before Election Day.

3. What question would you ask a candidate in an interview?

Student questions will vary, but sentences should start with question words, such as who, what, when, where, why, or how. For example, "How will you help people in your new job?"