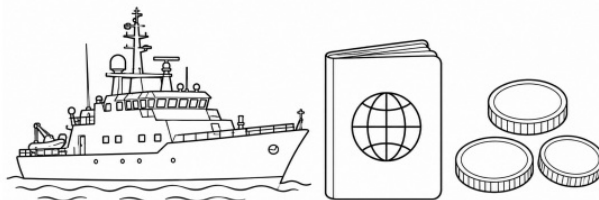


Three Levels of Government Poster

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 15 minutes

Circle one example at each level. Tell a partner what it does.

FEDERAL — Whole country



Defence • Passports • Currency

STATE / TERRITORY — State or territory



Government schools • Public hospitals • State / territory police

LOCAL — Local community



Rubbish collection • Council library • Council park

These are usual lead responsibilities, not exclusive boundaries. Levels often fund or deliver services together. Arrangements vary; the ACT also handles local services.

Three Levels of Government Worksheet

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

1. Match each level to the area it serves. Draw three lines.

Federal

Local community

State / territory

Whole country

Local

State or territory

2. Write F (federal), S (state/territory) or L (local).

- ☐ Defence
- ☐ Government schools
- ☐ Council parks
- ☐ Immigration
- ☐ Public hospitals
- ☐ Household rubbish collection
- ☐ Currency
- ☐ State / territory police
- ☐ Council libraries

These are usual lead responsibilities, not exclusive boundaries. Levels often fund or deliver services together. Arrangements vary; the ACT also handles local services.

3. A new hospital needs funding and staff. How could two levels work together?

Who Looks After It?

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Write F, S or L below each picture for its usual lead responsibility.

F = federal S = state / territory L = local



Government schools



Public hospitals



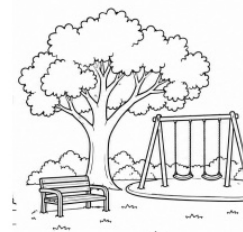
State / territory police



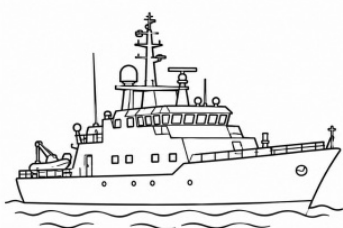
Rubbish collection



Council library



Council park



Defence



Passports



Currency

These are usual lead responsibilities, not exclusive boundaries. Levels often fund or deliver services together. Arrangements vary; the ACT also handles local services.

Government Responsibility Sorting Cards

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Cut the 12 cards. Use both sheets: 24 cards altogether.

1
Defence

2
Government schools

3
Council parks

4
Immigration

5
Public hospitals

6
Household rubbish collection

7
Currency

8
State / territory police

9
Council libraries

10
Citizenship

11
Public transport networks

12
Council footpaths

These are usual lead responsibilities, not exclusive boundaries. Levels often fund or deliver services together. Arrangements vary; the ACT also handles local services.

Government Responsibility Sorting Cards

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Cut the 12 cards. Use both sheets: 24 cards altogether.

13

Foreign affairs

14

State prisons

15

Local pet registration

16

Age Pension payments

17

Ambulance services

18

Council sports grounds

19

National census

20

Driver licensing

21

Council swimming pools

22

Australian passports

23

State consumer affairs

24

Local building approvals

These are usual lead responsibilities, not exclusive boundaries. Levels often fund or deliver services together. Arrangements vary; the ACT also handles local services.

Sort the 24 cards here, or write their numbers. Usual lead responsibility:

FEDERAL	STATE / TERRITORY	LOCAL

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Australian Parliament Diagram

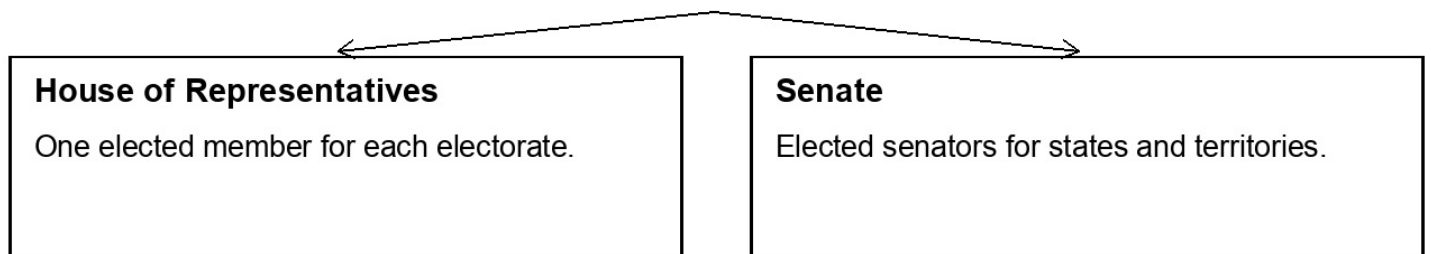
Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Label the building and city. Read who each chamber represents.



Building: _____ **City:** _____

Word bank: Parliament House · Canberra



Two houses share the work of federal law-making.

Constitutionally, Parliament also includes the King, represented by the Governor-General. This is a relationship diagram, not a floor plan.

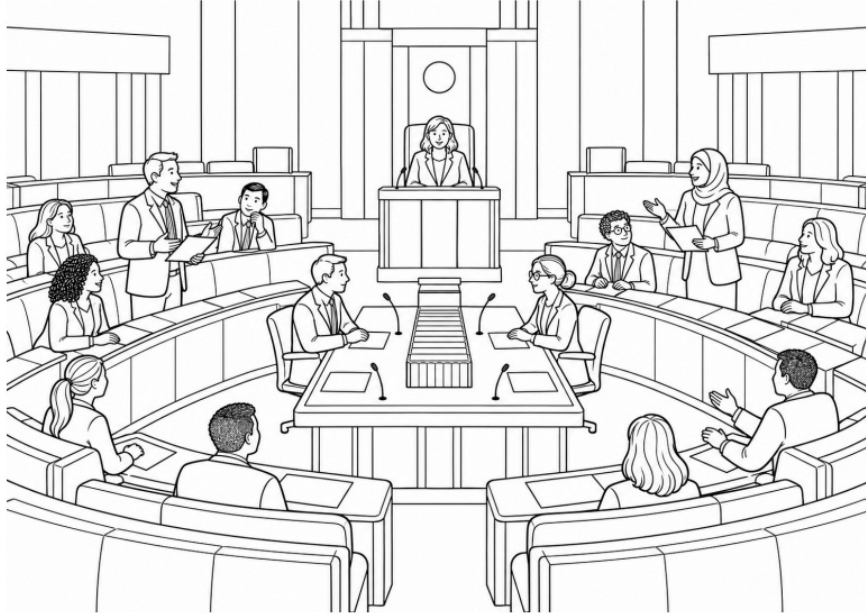
Underline the house that represents electorates. Circle the other house.

In which city does Federal Parliament meet?

House of Representatives Information Sheet

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Read the panels, colour the chamber, then match the three words.



THE LOWER HOUSE

One of Parliament's two elected houses. An MP is a Member of Parliament.

ELECTORATES

Each federal electorate chooses one House member to represent its people.

FORMING GOVERNMENT

The party or coalition with majority support in the House normally forms government.

PARLIAMENTARY WORK

Members debate and vote on bills, work in committees and examine government actions.

Draw a line from each word to its meaning.

electorate

proposed law

MP

area represented by a member

bill

Member of Parliament

House of Representatives Fill in the Blanks

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

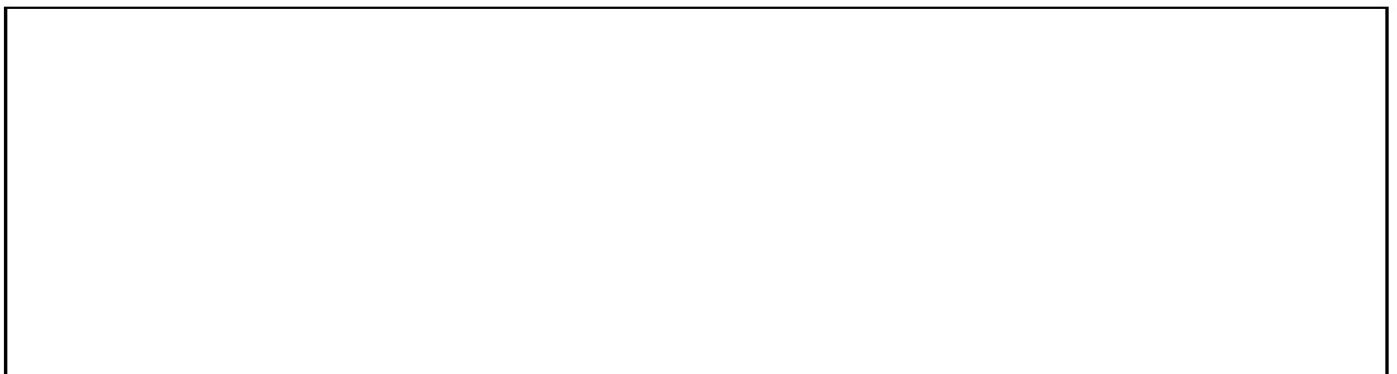
Use each word once. Read each completed sentence aloud.

WORD BANK

government · electorate · bills · houses · Speaker · Parliament

1. The House is one of the two _____ of Federal Parliament.
2. MP stands for Member of _____.
3. Each House member represents an _____.
4. Majority support in the House decides who forms _____.
5. The _____ runs meetings of the House.
6. Members debate and vote on _____, which are proposed laws.

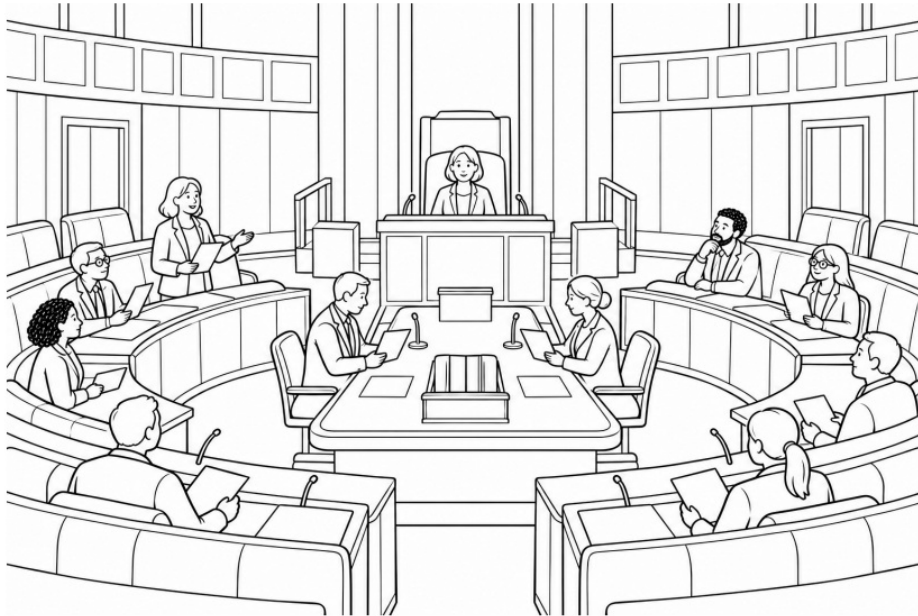
Sketch: people in an electorate → their House member.



Australian Senate Information Sheet

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Read the panels, colour the chamber, then match the three words.



THE UPPER HOUSE

The Senate is Parliament's other elected house. Its representatives are senators.

REPRESENTATION

Senators represent states and territories, rather than individual House electorates.

PROPOSED LAWS

Senators consider, debate and vote on bills and proposed changes to them.

CHECKING GOVERNMENT

Senators examine government actions and investigate issues in committees.

Draw a line from each word to its meaning.

senator

examine closely

bill

elected Senate representative

scrutinise

proposed law

Senate Fill in the Blanks

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

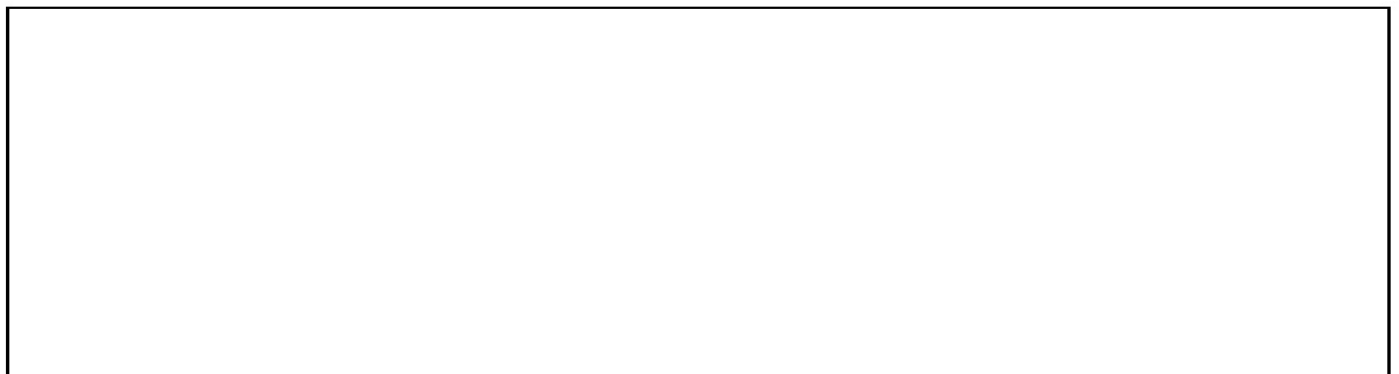
Use each word once. Read each completed sentence aloud.

WORD BANK

bills · President · senators · houses · territory · government

1. The Senate is one of the two _____ of Federal Parliament.
2. People elected to the Senate are called _____.
3. Senators represent a state or _____.
4. Proposed laws are called _____.
5. The _____ runs Senate meetings.
6. Senators scrutinise the work of _____.

Sketch: people in a state or territory → their senators.



Senate vs House of Representatives

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 25 minutes

Write H = House, S = Senate or B = both. All facts refer to Federal Parliament.

- ☐ 1. Each member represents one federal electorate.
- ☐ 2. Its elected representatives are called senators.
- ☐ 3. Debates proposed federal laws.
- ☐ 4. Is one of the two houses of Federal Parliament.
- ☐ 5. Government formation depends on support here.
- ☐ 6. Its presiding officer is the President.
- ☐ 7. Its presiding officer is the Speaker.
- ☐ 8. Can examine issues in committees.
- ☐ 9. Represents states and territories.
- ☐ 10. Has green furnishings in its main chamber.
- ☐ 11. Has red furnishings in its chamber.
- ☐ 12. Scrutinises the work of government.
- ☐ 13. Elects one member per federal electorate.
- ☐ 14. Elects several representatives for each state or territory.
- ☐ 15. Votes on bills and proposed changes.

Choose one B answer. Explain why both houses do this.

House, Senate or Both? Sorting Activity

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Cut the cards. Place each on the sorting mat on page 2.

1

Each member represents one federal electorate.

2

Its elected representatives are called senators.

3

Debates proposed federal laws.

4

Is one of the two houses of Federal Parliament.

5

Government formation depends on support here.

6

Its presiding officer is the President.

7

Its presiding officer is the Speaker.

8

Can examine issues in committees.

9

Represents states and territories.

10

Has green furnishings in its main chamber.

11

Has red furnishings in its chamber.

12

Scrutinises the work of government.

13

Elects one member per federal electorate.

14

Elects several representatives for each state or territory.

15

Votes on bills and proposed changes.

16

Its representatives are chosen in federal elections.

House, Senate or Both? Sorting Activity

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Sort 16 numbered facts. The BOTH column is for shared roles.

HOUSE ONLY	BOTH	SENATE ONLY

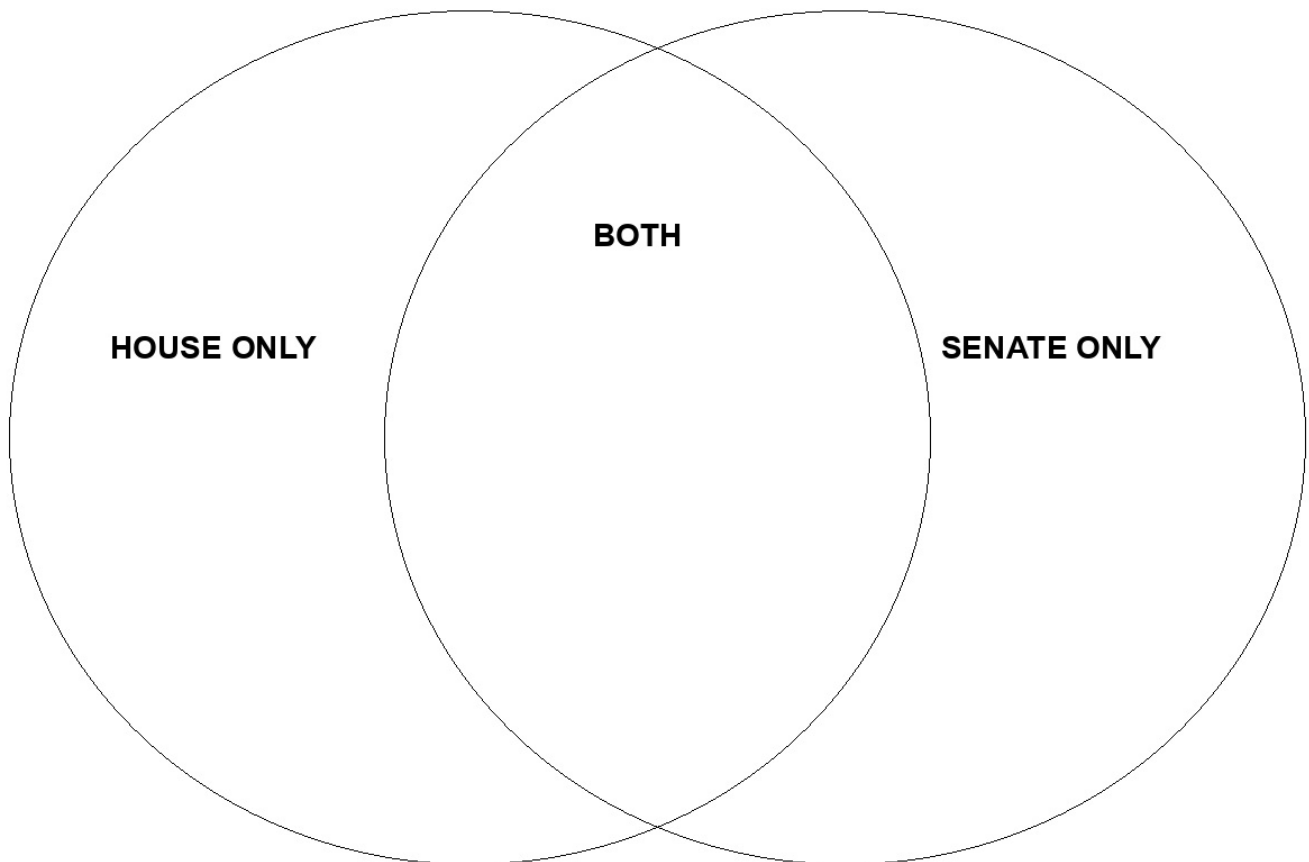
Explain one choice to a partner. What clue helped you?

Parliament Venn Diagram

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 25 minutes

Put each fact number in HOUSE ONLY, BOTH or SENATE ONLY.

1. Each member represents one federal electorate.
2. Its elected representatives are called senators.
3. Debates proposed federal laws.
4. Government formation depends on support here.
5. Its presiding officer is the President.
6. Its presiding officer is the Speaker.
7. Can examine issues in committees.
8. Represents states and territories.
9. Scrutinises the work of government.



Tell a partner how you decided where to put one shared fact.

Preferential Voting Explained

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

A preference is an order of choice. Each ballot counts for one option at a time.



- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1
Science Show | 2
Giant Slide | 3
Petting Zoo | 4
Games Arcade |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|

1 is the first choice. Later numbers say where the ballot can go if needed.

FOLLOW THIS BALLOT

Science Show is excluded because it has the fewest votes.



NEXT AVAILABLE CHOICE

The ballot goes to Giant Slide if it is still in the count.

For a simplified House-style election, an option needs more than half of all formal votes. Repeatedly exclude the lowest option and transfer its ballots if nobody has a majority.

If Giant Slide is also already excluded, which choice gets this ballot?

There are 20 formal ballots. More than half means at least ____ votes.

Preferential Voting Practice Ballot

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Classroom rule: number every box 1–4, using each number exactly once.

FICTIONAL SCHOOL FAIR ELECTION · PRACTICE ONLY

☐

Petting Zoo

☐

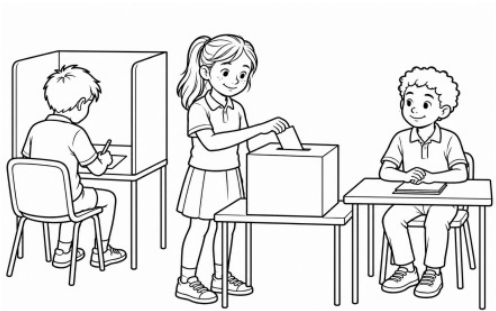
Giant Slide

☐

Games Arcade

☐

Science Show



Check these examples against our classroom rule. Circle YES or NO.

A. 1, 2, 3, 4
Follows the rule? YES / NO

B. 1, 2, 2, 4
Follows the rule? YES / NO

C. 1, 3, 4, 5
Follows the rule? YES / NO

D. 4, 3, 2, 1
Follows the rule? YES / NO

Explain one NO answer. How could you fix it?

Federal House instructions say to number every box. Actual ballot formality has additional rules and exceptions; these checks use only the classroom rule above.

Count a Preferential Election

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 40 minutes

20 FICTIONAL BALLOTS · Cut out or track each ballot by its ID.

A Petting Zoo · B Giant Slide · C Games Arcade · D Science Show

BALLOT 1 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 2 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 3 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 4 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D
BALLOT 5 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 6 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 7 1 → A 2 → B 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 8 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D
BALLOT 9 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 10 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 11 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 12 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D
BALLOT 13 1 → B 2 → A 3 → C 4 → D	BALLOT 14 1 → C 2 → A 3 → B 4 → D	BALLOT 15 1 → C 2 → A 3 → B 4 → D	BALLOT 16 1 → C 2 → A 3 → B 4 → D
BALLOT 17 1 → C 2 → B 3 → A 4 → D	BALLOT 18 1 → D 2 → C 3 → A 4 → B	BALLOT 19 1 → D 2 → C 3 → B 4 → A	BALLOT 20 1 → D 2 → B 3 → C 4 → A

Each ballot ranks every option once. Keep the paper together as it moves between piles.

Count a Preferential Election

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 40 minutes

Count sheet: keep all 20 ballots accounted for in every round.

A = Petting Zoo B = Giant Slide C = Games Arcade D = Science Show

1. Winning target: more than half of 20 = at least ____ votes.

2. Record how many ballots each option holds.

ROUND	A	B	C	D	TOTAL
First preferences					
After excluding ____					
After excluding ____					

Write a dash for an excluded option. The TOTAL must stay 20.

3. Which ballot IDs move after the first exclusion? Where do they go?

4. Who wins? How many votes do they hold in the final round?

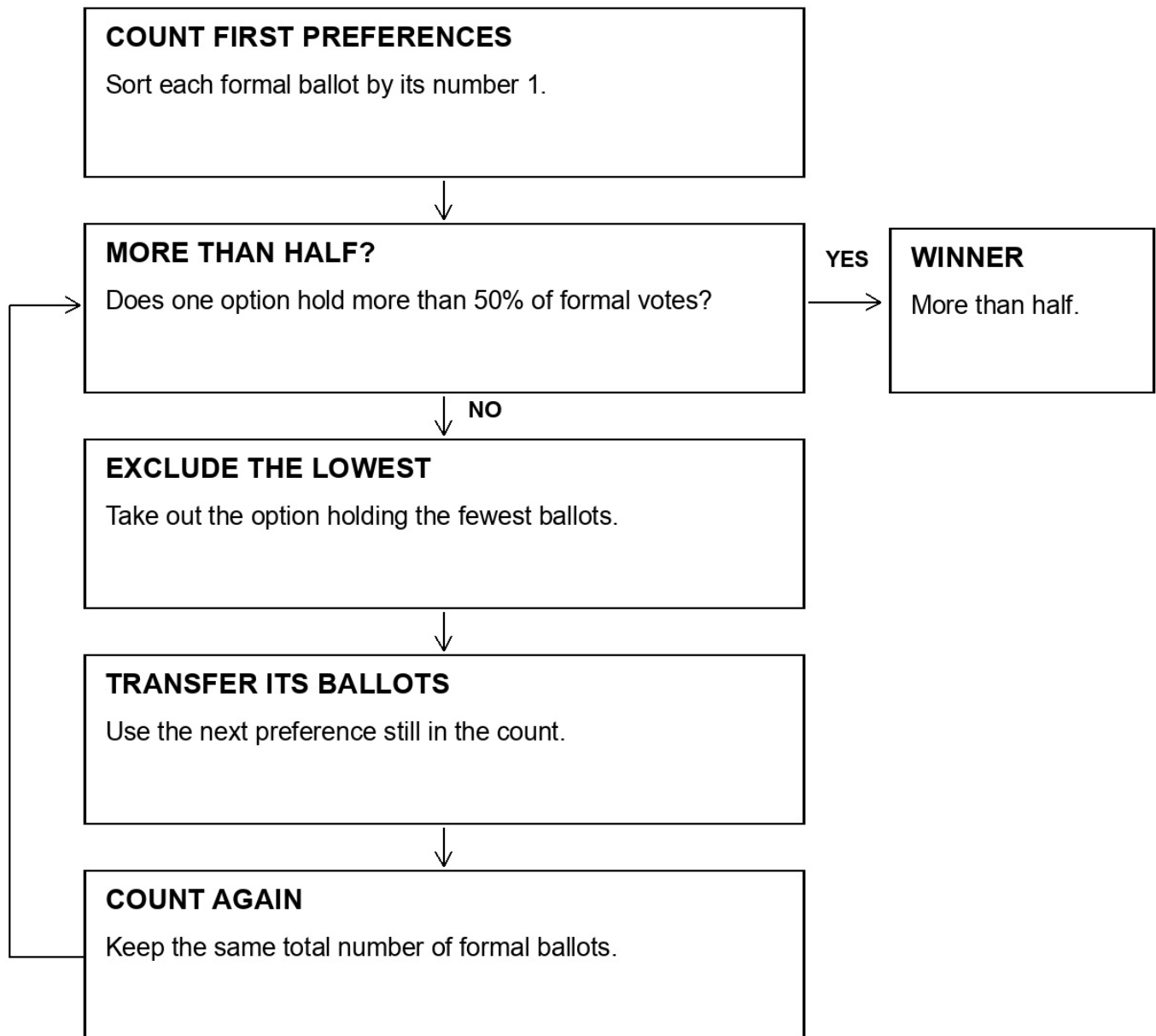
5. Why is a first-preference lead not always enough to win?

Simplified House-style count. This fixed set has no tied lowest option. It is not a Senate count.

Preferential Voting Flowchart

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 20 minutes

Trace the arrows. The NO path repeats until an option has a majority.



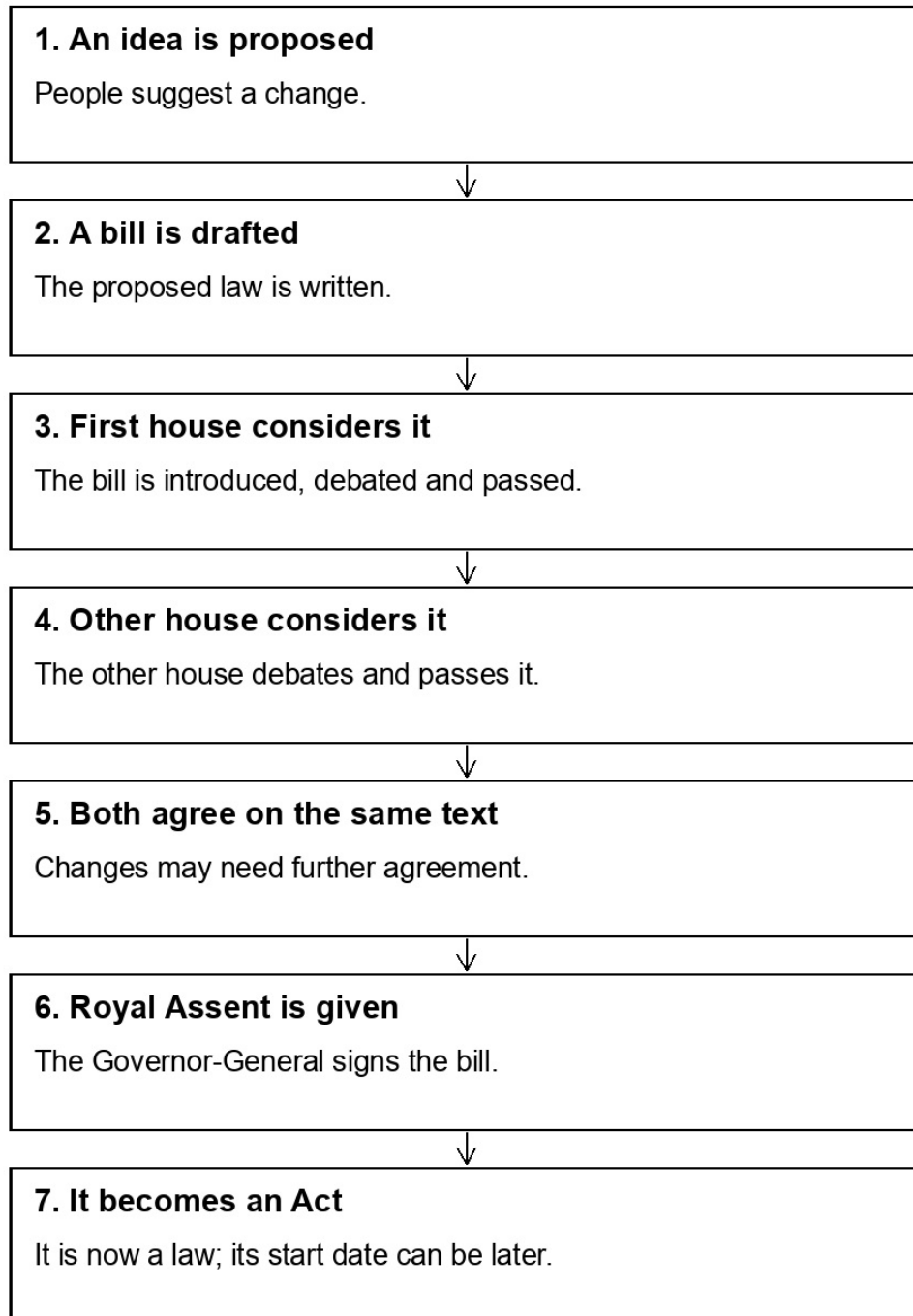
With 20 formal ballots, the winner needs at least ____ votes.

When an option is excluded, which ballots move?

How a Bill Becomes a Law

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 25 minutes

Trace the successful path. Circle the step that makes a bill an Act.



A bill is a proposal. An Act is a law.

A simplified successful pathway. Bills may be changed, delayed or rejected. Many can start in either house; some financial bills must start in the House of Representatives.

Add an arrow showing where a change might send the bill back.

Put Law-Making in Order

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 25 minutes

Number the seven cards from 1 to 7. They show a simplified successful path.

☐**Other house considers it**

The other house debates and passes it.

☐**An idea is proposed**

People suggest a change.

☐**It becomes an Act**

It is now a law; its start date can be later.

☐**First house considers it**

The bill is introduced, debated and passed.

☐**Royal Assent is given**

The Governor-General signs the bill.

☐**A bill is drafted**

The proposed law is written.

☐**Both agree on the same text**

Changes may need further agreement.

A simplified successful pathway. Bills may be changed, delayed or rejected. Many can start in either house; some financial bills must start in the House of Representatives.

Why must both houses agree on the same text?

Law-Making Cut and Paste

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Cut the seven cards. Arrange them on the pathway mat on page 2.

Both agree on the same text

Changes may need further agreement.

A bill is drafted

The proposed law is written.

It becomes an Act

It is now a law; its start date can be later.

An idea is proposed

People suggest a change.

Royal Assent is given

The Governor-General signs the bill.

Other house considers it

The other house debates and passes it.

First house considers it

The bill is introduced, debated and passed.

A simplified successful pathway. Bills may be changed, delayed or rejected. Many can start in either house; some financial bills must start in the House of Representatives.

Law-Making Cut and Paste

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 30 minutes

Place or glue one card in each box. Read the whole pathway aloud.

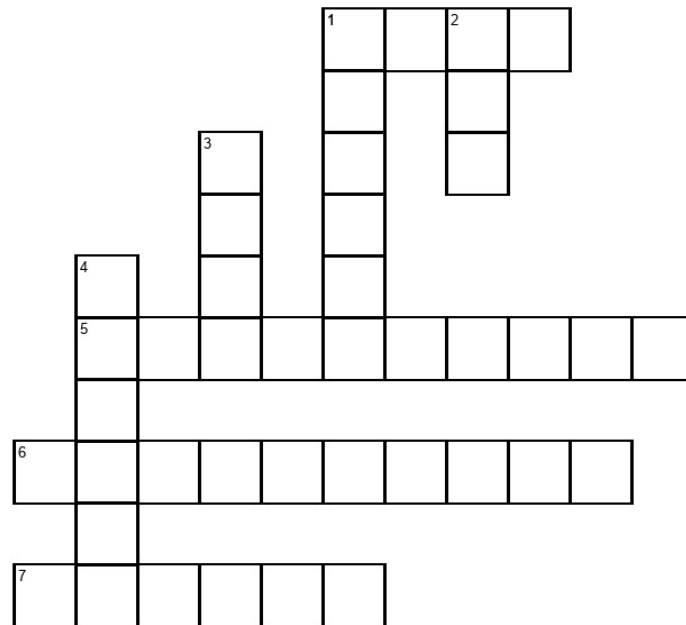
1
↓
2
↓
3
↓
4
↓
5
↓
6
↓
7

Circle the Royal Assent stage after your sequence is complete.

Australian Government Crossword

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 25 minutes

Solve the clues. One letter per box. Use the bank if you need help.



ACROSS

1. A proposed law or change to a law. (4)
5. Area represented by one House member. (10)
6. National law-making institution with two elected houses. (10)
7. An elected House representative is a _____ of Parliament. (6)

DOWN

1. Paper used to record a vote. (6)
2. A rule with legal force; an Act is one kind. (3)
3. Express a choice in an election. (4)
4. The upper house of Federal Parliament. (6)

WORD BANK: PARLIAMENT · SENATE · ELECTORATE · MEMBER · BALLOT · VOTE · BILL · LAW