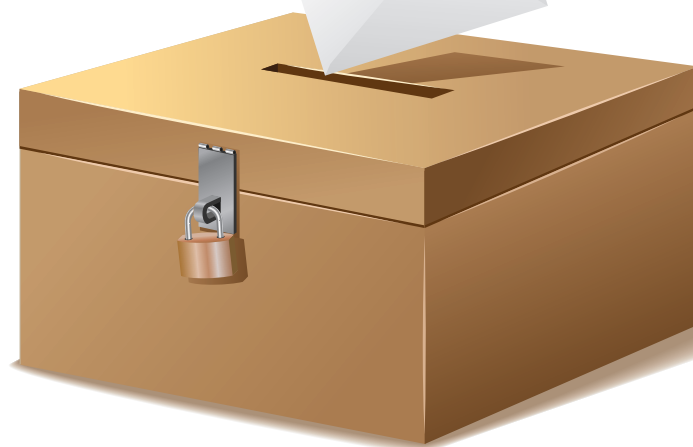


**Schools
GoSmarter**

Election Special!



Election Special!

Learning Objective:

- **To understand the principle of democracy and understand the process of an election**
- **To understand that different modes of travel affect our lives in various ways**

Election Special!

Today we have a special chance to vote for a new junior Transport Minister. Their job will be to help the Prime Minister decide on the best ways for people to travel.



How an election works

There are three people who would like this job. They can't all have it though! There's going to be an **election in our class to choose who it will be. To make it fair, each pupil will be able to **vote** for one of the three people, who are called **candidates** in the election. We will do the voting secretly, because everyone needs to choose who they want without pressure from anyone else. Then the votes will be counted up and the candidate with the most votes will be the winner.**

Who are the candidates?

To help us decide who would be the best person for the job, we will read a statement from each candidate, that will tell us why they think they would be a good junior Transport Minister. When you have heard what each candidate says, you will get a **ballot paper with a box next to each candidate's name. You put a cross in the box next to the name of the person you think will be best for the job. Then fold your ballot paper and put it in the **ballot box**. When they are all in, we'll count them together, so everyone knows there's been no cheating!**

Alex Walker

Well, I just love to walk! The best thing about it is that it's free, and nearly everyone can do it. I love to be out and about in the fresh air, and I meet lots of people that I know to chat to. Even if I'm just walking on my own, it gives me the chance to see what's going on. I notice all the changes that come with the seasons, like the new buds on the plants in Spring, and the leaves dropping off the trees in Autumn. Those leaves are great to scrunch my feet through when they are on the ground, and then there can be puddles to splash

Alex Walker continued...

through and sometimes even snow to slide through! What's really great though, is that no matter what the weather, walking always gives me exercise to help me keep fit, and it doesn't cause any pollution.

Why not try walking, even if it's just for part of your journey? If elected, I'll be spreading this message, and asking for better and safer streets and places to cross the road.

Best Wishes, A Walker

Isobel Rhyde

Vote for me, and vote for bikes! Bikes are one of the best things ever invented. You can travel faster on a bike than you can on foot, and if the traffic is in a jam, a bike can even be faster than a car. The best thing about cycling, though, is that it's fun! It's a great feeling to be pedalling along, knowing that you are providing all the power yourself. That's what keeps my heart healthy and has given me strong muscles. As for safety, until you are ten, you can go on the pavement, and more and more roads are getting cycle lanes.

Isobel Rhyde continued...

School usually will organise cycle training lessons, but parents are great too for passing on cycling skills. If I become the Junior Transport Minister, I'll be asking for more cycle lanes, and also more storage for bikes. Do you have a cycle parking place at your school? Lots of schools do, but we need even more!

Regards, Isobel Rhyde

Patrick A. Senger

I'd like to be junior Transport Minister because I believe in buses! I'm crazy about buses, because they can take me just about anywhere I'd like to go. They are quick and quite cheap, if you buy a season ticket or if you qualify for a child's ticket. I always travel to school on the bus, as I live quite far away. But I also go to the cinema, the shops and the swimming pool on the bus. And there's never a problem in finding a parking space! I usually travel with friends, and we can have a chat on the bus.

Patrick A. Senger continued...

Now, I know a bus is a vehicle, so it has an engine, but for the amount of people a bus can hold, it causes much less pollution than a car. What I think we really need are more modern clean buses, and more routes that are just for buses. Then we'd get around even faster! Vote for me and I'll try to make this happen.

**I'm your 'ticket' to public transport!
P.A. Senger**

**Schools
GoSmarter**



Let's vote!

Candidates	Put a cross in only one box below, to show which candidate you want to vote for:
A Walker	
I Rhyde	
P A Senger	

What was the result?

After everyone has cast their vote and put their ballot paper in the box (or basket), choose someone to open them one at a time, and keep a tally chart on the class whiteboard to keep track of how the voting is going. When all papers have been opened, the winner is the candidate who has received the most votes.