Society and politics

ban (v)	govern (v)	poverty (n)
campaign (n/v)	justice (n)	power (n)
candidate (n)	majority (n)	protest (n/v)
citizen (n)	minister (n)	right (n)
debate (v)	minority (n)	stand (v)
demonstrate (v)	opposition (n)	status (n)
donate (v)	parliament (n)	support (n/v)
elect (v)	policy (n)	supporter (n)
election (n)	political (adj)	vote (v)
equal (adj)	politician (n)	wealth (n)

Elect or vote?

We say **elect someone**, but **vote for someone**:

They had to **elect** a new party leader.

Nearly everyone voted for the same person.

Minority

We can use ${\bf minority}$ to mean 'the smaller number of part of a group'.

The opposite is majority:

Only a minority of students become involved in politics.

Minority also means 'a small group of people within a community or country that is different because of race, religion, language, etc.':

Schools in Britain need to do more to help children of ethnic minorities.

A Complete the answers to the questions using words from the box.

ca	ndidate	election	govern	majority	minister	policy	political	politician	stand	vote
1	What do	es Congre	ss do? ~ I	t makes the	e laws that		_ the USA.			
2	Why's M	att studyir	ng politica	l science?	~ He wants	to be a				
3	Who's th	at woman	in the ph	oto? ~ She	's the new	transpor	t	_•		
4	What's th	ne latest n	ews in po	litics? ~ The	e prime mi	nister ha	s announc	ed a genera	l	·
5	Which p	arty do yo	ur parent	s support?	~ They alw	ays	for th	ne Green Pa	rty.	
6	What we	ere you arg	guing abo	ut? ~ Our _	V	iews are	completel	y different.		
7	What wa	is the resu	It of the la	st election	? ~ The Co	nservativ	es won, bu	ıt without a		·
8	Is the pre	esident go	ing to res	ign? ~ No,	he's going	to	for re-	election.		
9	What's h	appening	in parlian	nent today	? ~ They're	discussir	ng a chang	e in the hea	lth	
10	Which pa	arty does	that politi	cian repres	ent? ~ He's	the	for t	he Liberal [)emocra	ts.

B Choose the best words to complete the sentences.

- 1 She believes that her job as a *political / politician* is to represent the views of her party.
- 2 The government is going ahead with the new education reform despite strong parliament / opposition.
- 3 They elected / voted him as their party leader more than six years ago.
- 4 Politicians will be debating / standing the tax reforms later this week.
- **5** The president was asked to clarify his party's *election / policy* on immigration.
- 6 This government came to majority / power four years ago.
- 7 Parliament / Opposition is voting tomorrow on the proposals for a new high-speed train line.
- 8 The same party has been *debating / governing* the country for the last 20 years.

C Complete the text. Use one word from the vocabulary list on the previous page for each space. Use the correct form of the words.

In the UK, the 1 is made up of the House of Commons and the House of Lords.
Laws are ² by all the parties in the House of Commons before being passed
to the House of Lords for approval. Members of the House of Commons are ³
at least every five years in a general ⁴ People ⁵ for a person in
their district from a list of 6, who are either chosen by 7 parties or
8 as independents. The party that wins a 9 forms the next government,
while the other parties are in 10 One of the first jobs of the prime minister who
comes to ¹¹ is to name the ¹² who will lead each of the government
departments.



D Match the words from the box to the definitions.

ba	n campaign	citizen	justice	minority	poverty	protest	status	support	wealth	
1	A statement o	r action t	hat show	s that you	do not like	or approv	e of son	nething: $_$		
2	The smaller nu	ımber or	part of a	group:						
3	The state of be	eing rich:		_						
4	The fair treatment of people:									
5	The legal position of a person, group or country:									
6	A plan to do a number of things in order to achieve a special aim:									
7	Help and conf	idence th	nat you gi	ve, especia	lly in orde	r to encou	rage a p	erson or th	ning:	_
8	3 The state of being poor:									
9	9 An official order that something is not allowed:									
10	O A person who is legally accepted as a member of a particular country:									
F M	atch the first p	art of th	e senten <i>c</i>	es (1–8) to	the secon	nd nart (a-	-h)			
	Everyone has t			,		(or men an	d women.	
	Residents are	_							gainst the pro	oosal
	Some commu		•	zed events					noney to the c	
4	His family acq	uired the	ir wealth				_		n the town ce	
	Local business						e thro	ugh the tex	ctile industry.	
6	The party is at	tempting	g to recrui	it			f to re	ceive an ec	ducation.	
7	Thousands ga	thered o	utside the	town hall	to		g supp	orters for t	he scheme.	

F Complete the text. Use one word from the vocabulary list on the previous page for each space. Use the correct form of the words.

8 It's one of the only companies that guarantees equal

The March on Washington is one of the largest civil 1 demonstrations in history.
The main aim of the ² was to demand social and economic ³ for
African Americans, including 4access to housing, education and jobs. African
Americans legally became American 5 after the Civil War, but 100 years later
they had still not achieved the same 6 as white Americans. Laws permitting
discrimination meant that African Americans were much more likely to live in 7
On Wednesday 28 August 1963, around 250,000 people marched on Washington
to 8against this injustice. Although most of the participants were African
Americans, it was also 9 by some white Americans, who either 10
money towards its organization or went to listen to the speeches. Many 11
stayed until the end to listen to Martin Luther King, who gave his famous 'I have a dream'
speech. One of the direct consequences of the March on Washington was the passing
of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which ¹² discrimination based on race, colour,
religion, sex or national origin.



h to welcome ethnic minorities to the area.