

Considering social issues

Before watching

- 1 Complete the description of elections in the UK with the words in the box.

candidates • councillors • election • general •
local • Mayor • represent • vote

Elections in the UK

(1) elections are normally held every five years and give everyone who is 18 or over has the opportunity to (2) for a Member of Parliament (MP) to (3) their local area, which is called a 'constituency'. A number of (4) stand for (5) in each constituency, and the one who wins the most votes is elected. The country's 650 MPs meet regularly in the House of Commons in London to make decisions.

There are also (6) council elections, to elect (7) They make decisions about local services and facilities. In most councils, the councillors themselves vote to choose a council leader, but in a few cities, the local people also vote for the council leader, who's called the (8)

While watching

VIDEO SKILLS: Recognising dependent prepositions

adjective + preposition


serious about connected with useful for worried about

verb + preposition

vote for succeed in (doing) run/stand for (election)
campaign for

(verb +) noun + preposition

take part in make a difference in consequence of

- 2a  51 VIDEO SKILLS Read the video skills box. Then look at the poster and think about what you're going to watch. Finally, watch the video. Write the issue that each candidate is campaigning for.

Young mayor elections *The candidates*



Name:
**Olivia
Dawkins**

Issue:



Name:
**Jack
Richards**

Issue:




Name:
**Luke
Clarke**

Issue:




Name:
**Chloe
Jones**

Issue:

- 2b  51 Watch again and take notes on the answer to the questions. Don't write complete sentences.

- What two reasons does Olivia give to defend her opinion?
.....
- Why is Jack sure his issue is important?
.....
- What does he plan to do to solve it?
.....
- What other things does Luke think students should learn? Why?
.....
- Why does Chloe think her issue is so important?
.....
- What does she say young people can offer at work?
.....

- 3a  51 Watch again and write exactly what each speaker says at the end of their speech.

Olivia: Vote for me and
Jack: Vote for me and
Luke: Please vote for me. I
Chloe: Please vote for me because

- 3b Which of the four candidates would you vote for? Why?

After watching

- 4a Think about the last elections that were held in your country. Can you remember what issues the main candidates discussed? Which issues were important to young people? Explain how.
- 4b SKILLS 4 LIFE Prepare a speech about what you would do if you were the president of your country. Follow these steps.

- Imagine you could be president of your country. Make notes about what you would do. Your ideas can be serious or funny.
- Prepare a short speech outlining your plans for the country. Use the speeches in the video for ideas about how to say things.
- Record yourself saying your speech. Use a webcam, mobile phone or video camera to do this. Try and make your speech as convincing as possible.

REFLECT ON IT



Many people nowadays say they are bored of politics and tired of politicians. Can you explain why that is? Do you think that this disinterest in politics is a good or a bad thing? Why?