

CONTENTS

Rationale	2
Links to Student Outcome Statements	4
Relevant Election Websites	6
Federation 1901	
Australia's Federation - Information Sheet	7
Activity: Dream Up a Dialogue	8
Key Players in the Road to Federation - Information Sheet	9
Activity: Write a Biography	10
Activity: Design a Monument	11
Political Parties	
Timeline: Australia Since Federation - Information Sheet	12
Activity: A Moment in Time	13
Activity: Whose Party?	14
Activity: Party Leader Interview	15
Prime Ministers of Australia - Information Sheet	16
Activity: Prime Ministers of Australia	17
Activity: Past Prime Ministers	18
Activity: Time for a New Party	19
Government of Australia	
Government of Australia - Information Sheet	20
Activity: Government Services	21
Activity: Quiz Time	22
Activity: Who's Who in Parliament? (1)	23
Activity: Who's Who in Parliament? (2)	24
Lead-Up to the Election	
Teachers' Notes - Extension Ideas	25
About the Federal Election - Classroom Ideas	26
Activity: Your Electorate	27
Activity: Neighbourhood Watch	28
<u>General Activities:</u> Activity: Newspaper Study (1) - Report	29
Activity: Newspaper Study (2) - Advertisement Analysis	30
Activity: Election Brainstorm	31
Becoming a Member of Parliament - Information Sheet	32
Activity: Candidate Profile	33
Activity: Current Campaigns	34
<u>Classroom Mock Election Activities: Teachers' Notes</u>	35
Activity: Campaign Countdown	36
Activity: Campaign Poster	37
Activity: Policy Speech (1)	38
Activity: Policy Speech (2)	39
Activity: Policy Speech (3) - Peer Evaluation	40
About Elections and Voting	
Australia's Electoral System - Information Sheet	41
Activity: Election Processes	42
Activity: All About Ballots	43
Voting In Australia - Information Sheet	44
Activity: Preferential Voting	45
Activity: Election Day - "Take Home" Activity	46
Activity: The Votes That Count	47
Activity: Election Crossword	48
After the Election	
Teachers' Notes - Classroom Extension Ideas	49
Teachers' Notes - Media Activities	50
Activity: Election Analysis	51
Activity: Making Comparisons	52
Activity: New Parliament, New Ministers	53
Activity: Election Promises	54
.....	
ANSWERS	
55	55

Dream Up a Dialogue

Setting the Scene:

Read the **Australia's Federation Information Sheet**. Go back in time to the 1890s when Federation was beginning to be discussed.

Your task:

Prepare a dialogue between the two Australians listed below. Give each person a name and try to imagine the sorts of comments they might make based on their description below. Try to write the dialogue through each of the two people's perspectives based on what you have read.

Person 1: _____

- Aged 45
- Born in Australia
- Son of a gold digger.
- Lives in Adelaide
- Would like to see the colonies united.

Person 2: _____

- Aged 75
- Born in England.
- Works in exporting and shipping.
- Lives in New South Wales
- Believes that New South Wales should run the rest of Australia.

Lines for dialogue _____

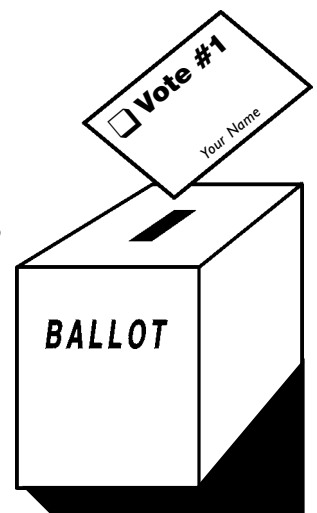
Sample

In your opinion...

1. Do you think it was a good idea for the colonies to join together to form a federation?

Give reasons. _____

2. What do you think Australia would be like today if Federation never took place?



RELATED LEARNING OUTCOME: Students will discuss a significant event in Australia's past from two different perspectives.



Key Players in the Road to Federation

Information Sheet

Sir Henry Parkes (1815-1896)

Often referred to as the 'Father of Federation', Sir Henry Parkes immigrated to Australia from England in 1839. Parkes was premier of the New South Wales colony between 1872 and 1891, being elected for five terms. He became the president of the convention to discuss the possibility of Australia becoming a federation that would unite all the colonies.

Parkes' image has appeared on the Australian \$5 note. The Canberra suburb of Parkes, which is now home to the Federal Parliament of Australia, was named in his honour, as was the New South Wales town of Parkes.

Sir Edmund Barton (1849-1920)

After starting his career as a lawyer in Sydney, Sir Edmund Barton became a member of the New South Wales Parliament in 1879. Barton strongly believed in the idea that Australian colonies should unite and become one nation and made many speeches to convince other people to support such an idea. In January 1901, at the time of Federation, Barton was asked to be the temporary prime minister until elections could be held in March of that year. He was then elected as prime minister and served until 1903 when he resigned from the Commonwealth Parliament to become a High Court judge.

Like Sir Henry Parkes and many other early prime ministers, a suburb was named after Barton in Canberra. Our first prime minister has also featured on a number of Australian stamps.

Alfred Deakin (1856-1919)

Alfred Deakin was not only the second prime minister of Australia, he was also the fifth and seventh, rising to office three times in the first ten years of Federation. He played a key role in convincing the Australian colonies to unite together through his involvement with the Australian Natives Association.

Deakin worked as a lawyer and writer before being elected to the Victorian Parliament in 1879. During his time in office he worked to introduce laws that would improve the conditions for workers in shops and factories. Like Parkes and Barton he was a strong believer in the Federation movement and in 1901 he became Australia's first Attorney General. Deakin took over as prime minister after Sir Edmund Barton's resignation.

GLOSSARY

- Attorney General** - the government minister responsible for justice who oversees the passing of laws and the running of law courts.
- convention** - a formal meeting of members, representatives and delegates (for example of a political party) to discuss an issue where a decision needs to be made.
- emigrated** - when someone has moved to another country to settle and possibly become a citizen of that nation.



Timeline: Australia Since Federation

Information Sheet

- **1890s** A severe depression faced Australia for most of the 1890s demonstrating the weaknesses of the six colonies. This period set the scene for the push towards a federation of the colonies.
- **1901** An Act to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia came into effect on 1 January. This was known as Federation.
- **1901** The first federal elections were held in March. Edmund Barton became the first prime minister and his Protectionist Party was the first government elected to power. The Free Trade Party was the first party in opposition.
- **1901** The first Parliament was opened on 9 May.
- **1904** The Australian Labor Party was elected for the first time with John Watson becoming prime minister.
- **1909** The Protectionist Party and the Free Trade Party merged to become the first Liberal Party.
- **1914-18** World War I took place. In 1916 the Labor prime minister Billy Hughes introduced conscription following the loss of over 8,000 lives at Gallipoli and 63,000 lives lost in total during the first world war. A referendum was held in 1916 and another in 1917 and the conscription legislation was rejected both times. Hughes was expelled from the Labor Party as a result. He formed a new party called the Nationalist Party.
- **1929 -35** Australia experienced a severe depression, which resulted in huge unemployment rates.
- **1945** After World War II, thousands of people immigrated to Australia from all over the world, particularly Europe. This wave of immigration greatly changed Australia at the time and has contributed to the multicultural society of Australia today.
- **1967** A referendum was held to approve changes to Australia's Constitution. As a result, the national Parliament was given the power to legislate for the Aboriginal people and discriminating references were removed from the Constitution. Aboriginal Australians had already been granted the right to vote. In 1971, Neville Bonner became the first Aboriginal Australian elected to Federal Parliament.
- **1975** The Labor Party, with Gough Whitlam as prime minister, became the first government in the history of Federation, to be dismissed from power. Sir John Kerr, the governor general of the time, taking the advice of Chief Justice Garfield Barwick, dismissed the Labor Government on November 11 after the Senate tried to block the Labor's budget. This event, usually referred to as "The Dismissal", was one of the most dramatic political events in Australia's history. More information can be found here: <http://whitlamdismissal.com>
- **1991** The Australian Republican Movement (www.republic.org.au) was formed in the hope of seeing Australia become a republic and having an Australian head of state. The intention was that Australia could become a republic by January 2001, marking Australia's Centenary of Federation. Many models were put forward to demonstrate how an Australian head of state (or president) could be selected. One model suggested that the government choose the president (indirectly elected), another model suggested that the Australian people vote for the president (directly elected).
- **1997** Cheryl Kernot, leader of the Australian Democrats defected to the Australian Labor Party amid much controversy.
- **1999** A referendum was held to decide whether Australia should become a republic using a model that would involve an indirectly elected president. Many Australians who wanted a republic were not happy with the model put forward and the NO vote won.

GLOSSARY

- conscription** - some countries require by law that their citizens serve a term in their defence forces.
- defected** - abandoned a position to join an opposing group.
- legislation** - the process of making laws in parliament.
- multicultural** - containing traditions and customs of several cultures.
- referendum** - a vote by all voters on a question. Usually a referendum decides on whether a law should be changed or whether Australia's constitution should be amended.

Prime Ministers of Australia

Setting the Scene:

Study the Prime Ministers of Australia Information Sheet. Read about the past prime ministers of our country. Match up the following sentence beginnings with the correct ending.

Website:

▶ <http://primeministers.naa.gov.au/>

Your Task:

Match up the following sentence beginnings with the correct ending.

Beginnings

Endings

1. Sir Edmund Barton ...
 2. Alfred Deakin was prime minister for a total of ...
 3. The first Australian Labor prime minister was ...
 4. Joseph Aloysius Lyons belonged to the ...
 5. Andrew Fisher first served as prime minister on ...
 6. Sir Edmund Barton and Alfred Deakin both ...
 7. William Morris Hughes changed from ...
 8. In November 1976, the prime minister was ...
 9. The longest serving prime minister was ...
 10. The shortest term served as prime minister was ...
 11. John Curtin served as prime minister for ...
 12. Prime ministers Page, Forde and McEwen all ...
 13. Malcolm Fraser was prime minister from ...
 14. In January 1931, the prime minister was ...
 15. Paul Keating was prime minister from ...
- a. ... stood for the protectionist party.
 - b. ... Robert Gordon Menzies.
 - c. ... was the first prime minister of Australia.
 - d. ... United Australia Party.
 - e. ... of three separate terms.
 - f. ... 3 years, 8 months, and 29 days.
 - g. ... 8 days
(by Francis Michael Forde in 1945).
 - h. ... December 1991 to March 1996.
 - i. ... 13 November, 1908.
 - j. ... James Henry Scullin.
 - k. ... Was John Christian Watson.
 - l. ... Harold Holt.
 - m. ... the ALP to the Nationalist Party in 1917.
 - n. ... served less than a month as prime minister.
 - o. ... November 1975 until March 1983.



RELATED LEARNING OUTCOME: Students will match up written information based on their knowledge of Australian prime ministers.

Election Brainstorm

Make a chart or mind-map to show how much you know about the upcoming election. Use your research so far and try to organise your chart so that it makes meaning for someone else.

You can also find out information using any of the websites you have come across. The best place to start is with the electoral commission and the political party home pages. These are all listed as relevant websites on Page 6.

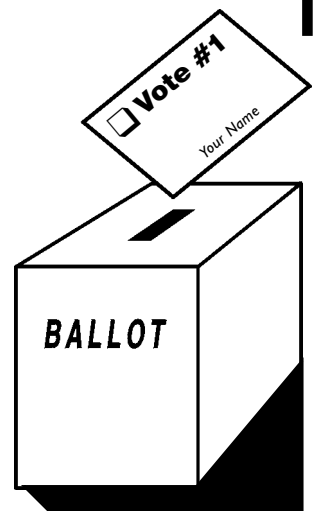
This website is an excellent starting point: ▶ www.aec.gov.au/_content/How/procedures/index.htm

Questions to start with:

- Who are the candidates for my electorate?
- What parties are represented in my electorate?
- What is the name of my electorate?
- How many electorates are in my state/territory?
- Who is the current MP for my electorate?
- What is their role in parliament?
- How can I contact this member of parliament? (Where are they based?)

Start your brainstorm in the space below drawing lines to link and categorise your ideas.

Sample



EXTRA!

Prepare a two minute presentation to the class to demonstrate what your brainstorm means.



RELATED LEARNING OUTCOMES: a) Students will discuss and clarify their ideas on the topic of elections and political parties;
b) Students will orally present their ideas to the class to demonstrate their understanding.