

Follow the steps below to find out which party or independent matches your political views best.
Use the steps to write an article, record a podcast or film a video to share with your class about how you decided who to vote for.

STEP 1

Find your electorate on the [Australian Electoral Commission website](#).

STEP 2

Find out who the candidates were for your electorate at the last Federal election.

- Who are your options?
- Which parties are represented?

STEP 3

Research the parties the candidates belong to.
Choose from the following issues the one that you care about most:

- climate change
- welfare
- wages
- immigration
- taxation
- foreign aid
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs
- trade
- health
- education
- other.

Find out as much as you can about each party's policies on your issue and write a short statement comparing their policies.
How are they different?
How are they the same?

STEP 4

Make a decision based on what you have found out about each party's policies.
Which candidate do you think you would have voted for?
Explain why you preferred this party's policies over the other policies you analysed.

STEP 5

Map it on your political compass.
There are many different models for explaining people's political views. One model is a political compass.
A political compass plots your views along two different axes. Check out the template on the following page to see how it works.

POLITICAL COMPASS

On the horizontal or X-axis are your views about the **economy**. The further left your views are, the more influence over the economy you think the government should have. The further right your views are, the less influence over the economy you think government should have.

On the vertical or Y-axis are your **social views**. These range from **social progressive** (people who believe that issues in society need to be talked about and fixed) to **social conservative** (people who value tradition and stability over change).

Use the template to plot where you are based on your research.

Visit [ABC Vote Compass](#) to see if you end up where you thought.

Which Australian political party are your views closest to?

[Compare your views](#) to historical figures and other countries.

