Citizenship

# How do elections work in different countries?

# Worksheet

Mrs Barry

# TASK ONE

Study the table and answer the questions below:

1. Olivia Blake won a plurality rather than a majority of the votes. What does this mean?
2. This result is a referred to as a 'three way split'. What does this mean?
3. Is this result fair? Why/ Why not?

*Challenge: How could this voting system be improved to make it more democratic?*

Credit: Wikimedia

| General election 2019: Sheffield Hallam[26] | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Party** | **Candidate** | **Votes** | **%** | **±%** |
| **Labour** | **Olivia Blake** | **19,709** | **34.6** | ▼ 3.8 |
| Liberal Democrats | Laura Gordon | 18,997 | 33.4 | ▼ 1.3 |
| Conservative | Ian Walker | 14,696 | 25.8 | ▲ 2.0 |
| Green | Natalie Thomas | 1,630 | 2.9 | ▲ 1.5 |
| Brexit Party | Terence McHale | 1,562 | 2.7 | *New* |
| UKIP | Michael Virgo | 168 | 0.3 | ▼ 1.3 |
| Independent | Liz Aspden | 123 | 0.2 | *New* |
| | **Majority** | 712 | 1.2 | ▼ 2.5 |
| | **Turnout** | 56,885 | 78.2 | ▲ 0.4 |
| Labour **hold** | **Swing** | | ▼ 1.2 | |

# TASK TWO

Study the table and image on the previous slide answer the questions below:
1. Which parties seem to benefit from FPTP?
2. Which parties are disadvantaged by FPTP?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of using the system of FPTP? Create a table

| Party | Number of seats | % of seats | Number of votes | % of votes |
|-------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Conservatives | 365 | 56.2% | 13 966 565 | 43.6% |
| Labour | 202 | 31.1% | 10 269 076 | 32.2% |
| SNP | 48 | 7.4% | 1 242 380 | 3.9% |
| Lib Dem | 11 | 1.7% | 3 696 423 | 11.6% |



| 365 | 202 | 48 | 11 | 24 |
|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| Conservative | Labour | SNP | LD | O |

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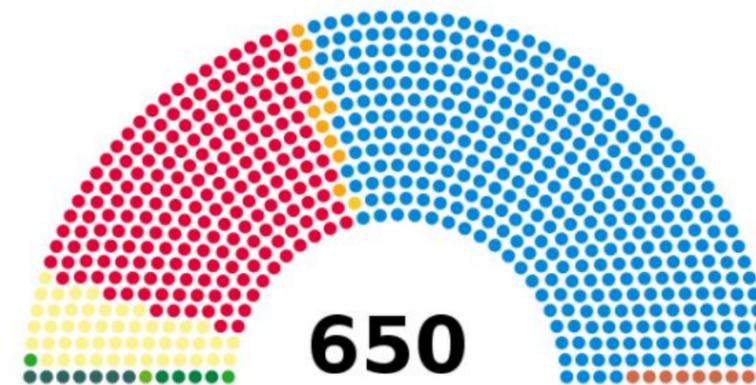
# Task Three

| Strengths of FPTP | Weaknesses of FPTP |
|---|---|
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Extremist parties unlikely to win seats

Leads to governments with strong majorities

Easy to understand- one person one vote

Leads to tactical voting

Unfair on smaller parties

Leads to wasted votes