# 38+ Politics and public institutions

SUPPLEMENTARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

**Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

## 1 Choose the word or phrase that completes each sentence.

**1** In a representative democracy, citizens *elect* / *appoint* / *rule* the people who speak for them in parliament.

**2** After the election, three smaller parties agreed to *form* / *cast* / *preside* a coalition.

**3** The candidate *won* / *gained* / *appointed* the seat by only 120 votes.

**4** Each *constituency* / *legislature* / *federation* sends an elected member to the chamber.

**5** Before entering the booth, every voter received a *ballot paper* / *policy* / *term*.

**6** The president may *nominate* / *vote* / *govern* a person for a senior judicial post.

**7** The party published its *policies* / *politics* / *politicians* before polling day.

**8** No party achieved an overall *election* / *majority* / *representation*.

## 2 Complete each sentence with the correct form of the word in capitals.

**1** The country is _____ by a president and a cabinet. **GOVERN**

**2** The local _____ answered questions from residents. **REPRESENT**

**3** Fair _____ depends on equal access to the political process. **REPRESENT**

**4** The next _____ will take place in May. **ELECT**

**5** Only registered _____ may cast a ballot. **ELECT**

**6** The two regions have very different systems of _____. **GOVERN**

**7** The minister will _____ over the committee meeting. **PRESIDE**

**8** The new _____ takes office in January. **PRESIDE**

## 3 Match the verbs on the left with the words on the right to make political collocations.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 cast | ____ | a independence |
| 2 win | ____ | b a constituency |
| 3 stand | ____ | c a vote |
| 4 form | ____ | d over the Cabinet |
| 5 gain | ____ | e a coalition government |
| 6 appoint | ____ | f a seat |
| 7 preside | ____ | g senior officials |
| 8 represent | ____ | h for political office |

## 4 Complete the report with the words and phrases in the box.

**ballot paper | candidates | coalition government | constituency | general election | legislature | majority | polling stations | representative | term**

The Republic of Bellford held a **1** _____ on Thursday. Eight **2** _____ stood in the Lakeside **3** _____, each hoping to become its next **4** _____. The **5** _____ opened at 7 a.m., and every voter received a **6** _____. By midnight, no party had won an overall **7** _____ in the national **8** _____. The two largest parties therefore began talks about forming a **9** _____. The elected members will serve a four-year **10** _____.

## 5 Replace the incorrect word or phrase in bold.

**1** Citizens cast their **elections** at a polling station. _____

**2** The party with the most seats usually becomes the **marginal** party. _____

**3** She is standing **on** parliament in June. _____

**4** The president was **represented** for a five-year term. _____

**5** A coalition government is formed by **one party**. _____

**6** A legislature is a group of people who **enforce** new laws. _____

**7** A **constituency** is the whole group of people entitled to vote. _____

**8** The prime minister **casts** the Cabinet. _____

## 6 Build complete sentences. Add articles and prepositions where necessary.

**1** this parliament / consist / two chambers

_____

**2** voters / choose / several candidates

_____

**3** president / appoint / cabinet members

_____

**4** party / win / majority / seats

_____

## OVER TO YOU

**Slovenia in focus.** Prepare a 60-90 second explanation of Slovenia's political system. Then write a paragraph of **120-150 words**.

Include: kind of government | parliament and chambers | head of state and head of government | elections | terms of office | how citizens are represented

[ ] Use at least eight target expressions. [ ] Include two word-family forms. [ ] Add one comparison with another system.

_____

_____

_____

# ANSWER KEY

## 1 Choose the correct word or phrase

1 **elect** 2 **form** 3 **won** 4 **constituency** 5 **ballot paper** 6 **nominate** 7 **policies** 8 **majority**

## 2 Word families

1 **governed** 2 **representative** 3 **representation** 4 **election** 5 **electors** 6 **government** 7 **preside** 8 **president**

## 3 Political collocations

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1 c** | cast a vote | **5 a** | gain independence |
| **2 f** | win a seat | **6 g** | appoint senior officials |
| **3 h** | stand for political office | **7 d** | preside over the Cabinet |
| **4 e** | form a coalition government | **8 b** | represent a constituency |

## 4 Election report

1 **general election** 2 **candidates** 3 **constituency** 4 **representative** 5 **polling stations** 6 **ballot paper** 7 **majority** 8 **legislature** 9 **coalition government** 10 **term**

## 5 Correct the errors

1 elections -> **votes**
2 marginal -> **ruling**
3 on -> **for**
4 represented -> **elected**
5 one party -> **more than one party**
6 enforce -> **make / pass**
7 constituency -> **electorate**
8 casts -> **heads / leads**

## 6 Model sentences

1 This parliament consists of two chambers.

2 Voters choose from several candidates.

3 The president appoints cabinet members.

4 The party won a majority of seats.

**Exercise 7:** Answers will vary. Check accurate content, clear organisation and appropriate use of the target vocabulary. A strong response distinguishes the head of state from the head of government and uses political collocations accurately.