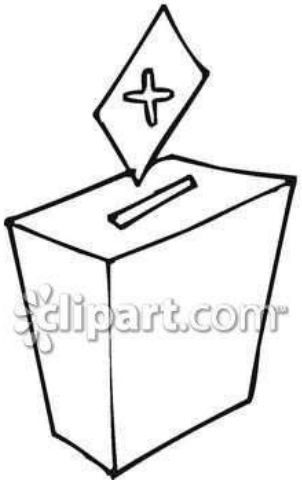
EASY ACCESS ENGLISH

Elections

Activity One – Revision of the different past tenses.



Activity Two – The Last Elections…

Answer the following questions using the past tenses:

1. When were the last professional elections in your work?
2. Who were the candidates?
3. Who won the elections?
4. How did the loser feel?
5. What did the candidates propose?
6. What have the elected representatives done or asked for during their time in office?
7. Have you ever presented yourself for any type of election at school, university or work?
8. If so, what happened?
9. Explain what happened in the last French political elections.
10. Explain what happened in the last American elections.

Activity Three – Explain the Elections.

Answer the following questions using these linking words wherever possible:

In fact **Basically** **In brief.** **Clearly** **Obviously** **Furthermore** **Therefore**	**Consequently** **Nevertheless** **However** **Besides** **Typically** **Otherwise** **In which case**	**On the other hand** **In any case** **Whatever the…** **Unless** **Providing that** **As long as** **Whereas**

1. What are professional elections?
2. Why do they take place?
3. How are they organised?
4. What is the procedure to follow if you want to participate as a candidate?
5. What is the procedure to follow in order to vote?

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Activity Four – Fill in the gaps in the text using the linking words.

- Read the text paying attention to your intonation and pronunciation.

It is not well known but over the last 20 years there has been an increase in the regulatory requirements for UK employers to consult with employee representatives. …….. more and more employers have to organise elections for their workforce to elect appropriate representatives.

…… it is the employer's responsibility not only to organise the election …… also to ensure that it is fairly and properly conducted and complies with all the relevant regulations.

This……. is a difficult role for employers or their usual professional advisers to administer themselves. …….. they will lack experience of organising elections and they will not have access to the specialist print, internet or telephone facilities needed to run a secret ballot that is also secure.

……. the ballots can also be very time consuming, ……. people get distracted from their usual work.

……..employers and their close advisers may also be regarded by employees as interested parties in the ballot rather than impartial election managers……..this can lead to disputes about the legitimacy of the whole electoral process.

The surest, simplest, smoothest and swiftest way to organise an employee representative election that all sides will respect, is to use Electoral Reform Services (ERS). (ERS is a private UK business).

http://www.erbs.co.uk/election_services/Employee_Representative_Elections.asp

Activity Five: Your experience.

Now using the linking words again answer the following questions:

1. What do you think of the idea of using the services of an outside organisation to organise the elections?
2. Would you use such a service, or have you already?
3. Do the elections take up a lot of time for you?
4. Do you think that these elections serve a useful purpose for the company?
5. Would you choose to cancel all future employee representative elections if you could?