Voting

NEW INTERNATIONALIST
EASIER ENGLISH
INTERMEDIATE READY
LESSON
This lesson:

Grammar – how to say things are optional and compulsory

Speaking – about voting in different countries, and if voting should be compulsory or not

Reading – an argument
True or false? - general elections?:

1) In the UK, voting is optional.
2) Everyone has to vote in Germany.
3) You only vote if you want to in France.
4) Voting is compulsory in Brazil if you’re between 18 and 70, but you can vote if you like if you’re 16, 17 or over 70 (if you are literate).
5) You are fined if you don’t vote in some countries.
6) You must vote in Australia because it’s mandatory.
7) You don’t have a choice whether to vote or not in Argentina.
What do you notice about the underlined language?:

1) In the UK, voting **is optional**.
2) Everyone **has to** vote in Germany.
3) You **only vote if you want to** in France.
4) Voting **is compulsory** in Brazil if you’re between 18 and 70, but **you can vote if you like** if you’re 16, 17 or over 70.
5) You **are fined if you don’t** vote in some countries.
6) You **must** vote in Australia because **it’s mandatory**.
7) You **don’t have a choice whether to vote or not** in Argentina.
8) You **don’t have to** vote in Spain.
Discuss your country and other countries – which do you think is best?

**Voting is compulsory**
- You have to vote
- Everyone has to vote
- You are fined if you don’t vote
- You must vote

**Voting is mandatory**
- You don’t have a choice whether to vote or not

**Voting is optional**
- You only vote if you want to
- You can vote if you like
- You don’t have to vote
Read this article:
“Is it a good idea to make everyone vote?”

Group A – find all the YES arguments
Group B – find all the NO arguments

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Is_it_a_good_idea_to_say_that_everyone_must_vote%3F
Now divide into pairs – A&B

A – you think voting should be compulsory – try to persuade B with all the reasons you found in the text

B – you think voting should be optional – try to persuade A with all the arguments you found in the text
Homework:
Choice:

**Reading**: read the original argument: http://www.newint.org/sections/argument/2015/03/18/uri-220.jpg

or (and?)

**Writing**: write an article for a magazine about what you really think: “Should voting be compulsory?”