

How to use the stimulus.

The stimulus on the next page is here to help spark your ideas about **democracy**.

We have included pictures, quotes, symbols and information—but you are welcome to add your own too!

1

Look closely.

- Look carefully at the stimulus.
- Identify any important details, words, images or symbols.
- Ask questions if something is confusing.

2

Think deeply.

- Think about—*What did you notice first? What colours, people or symbols stand out? What do the words mean? What message it is sending about democracy? How does this make me feel? What do the images and symbols represent? What is their meaning in relation to democracy? What detail do I like the most?*

3

Make connections.

- Think about what you already know about democracy.
- Link the stimulus to something you have learned in class or seen in real life.
- Conduct further research into a key idea that interests you.

4

Explore and create

- Select 2 to 3 stimulus pieces that inspire you.
- Take one piece and begin to experiment with different materials and artistic styles.
- Be creative—your artwork should show your ideas about democracy.



93

In Queensland citizens **elect 93 Members** of Parliament to **represent them.**



Legislative Assembly Chamber, Queensland Parliament Parliamentary Service Collection, 2024.

This is called a **representative democracy.**

Defining democracy

1. Government **by the people**; a form of government in which the supreme **power is vested in the people** and exercised by them or by their **elected agents** under a free electoral system.

5. Policial or social equality; **democratic spirit.**

Source: *Macquarie Dictionary*, 2026.



Legislative Assembly Chamber. Parliamentary Service Collection, 2024.

Corinthian columns (shown here) are found throughout the Queensland Parliament.

Democracy comes from the **Greek word *dēmokratia***

- *dēmos* (people, population)
- *kratos* (rule, authority)



The Mace symbolises the **authority** of the Parliament.

DEMOCRACY

We Australians have grown our own version of law and democracy under the Southern Cross.

Father Frank Brennan SJ AO

Source: Museum of Modern Democracy, Magna Carta and Modern Australia <magnacarta.moadoph.gov.au/quotes/>



Climate rally, Sydney, 2019. Photo by Justin Reiss on Unsplash <unsplash.com/photos/a-crowd-of-people-holding-up-signs-in-front-of-a-building-_2aG0d4sy0D>

4 key features of democracy



Free and fair elections.



Everyone is equal before the law (rule of law).



An inclusive and equitable society.



Active and engaged citizen.



Molly Steer. Used with permission.

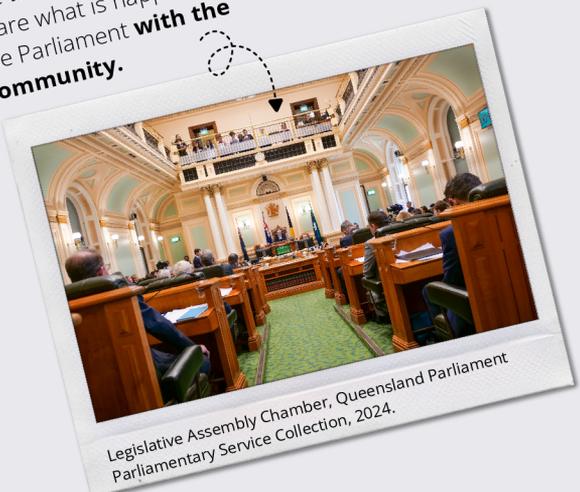
Aged 9, Molly Steer campaigned against single-use plastic straws, helping lead to a Queensland wide ban.

Adapted from: Parliamentary Education Office (PEO), *Democracy*, <peo.gov.au/understand-our-parliament/how-parliament-works/system-of-government/democracy>



Voting is **compulsory** in Australia.

The **Media** and Hansard share what is happening in the Parliament **with the community.**



Legislative Assembly Chamber, Queensland Parliament Parliamentary Service Collection, 2024.