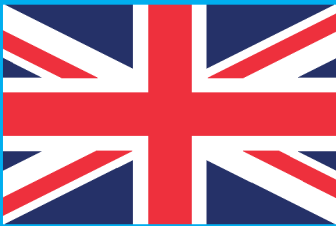


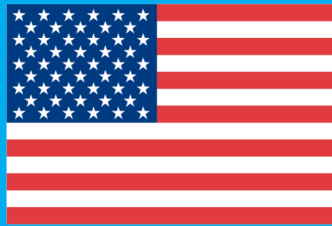
## Different types of voting systems

01

### First past the post



United Kingdom



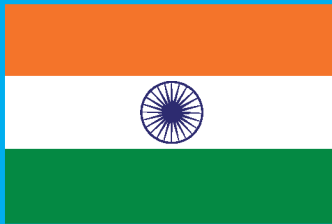
United States



Canada



Australia



India



#### For:

Each territorial constituency is represented by a single legislator. Each voter can only vote for one candidate and the candidate who polls the most is elected.

This tends to produce strong and stable governments, such as in the UK, the United States, Canada, Australia and India.



#### Against:

It may result in the election of a candidate who has received only a minority of the votes cast. For example, in a close election with four candidates, the total required to win could be as little as 25 percent of the total vote plus one.

## Different types of voting systems

02

### Proportional representation



#### For:

Seeks to create a representative body that reflects the overall distribution of public support for each political party.

This ensures parties are represented proportionally in the legislature and has been adopted by most other advanced Western democracies, including Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.



#### Against:

Argued by some as the system that produces 'weak' coalition governments rather than 'strong' majority ones. May lead to indecision, compromise and potential legislative paralysis.

## Different types of voting systems

03

### Alternative vote



candidates	L. Smith	1
	M. Baker	4
	B. Taylor	5
	M. Davies	2
	K. Evans	3



#### For:

More accurately referred to as a 'majority preferential' system, this method is used in Australia for elections to the House of Representatives. Voters rank candidates by preference, with their first, second and third choices taken into account.

If a candidate wins a majority of first preference votes, he or she is declared the winner. If not, the candidate with the fewest first preference votes is eliminated and the second preferences of voters who made this candidate their first choice are distributed among the other candidates. This process of elimination and transfers continues until one of the remaining candidates has a majority.



#### Against:

In this system, some votes count more than others. If your first preference is a mainstream party, your other choices might not be counted. However, if your first preference is a small party who gets knocked out, your other preferences will count.