

What Do You Mean My Vote Doesn't Count?

Grade Level: Secondary (9-12)

Overview	The students will use Decing to experience voting and then they will discuss the benefits and the downfalls of voting.
Objective	After discussing the handout the students should be able to answer the questions on the quiz with 100% accuracy.
Standards	USG.5.3- Analyze the roles of citizens in Indiana and the United States.
Materials	Decing Computer The Economics of Voting: What Do You Mean My Vote Doesn't Count? ¹
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The teacher will set-up a poll using Decing.2. The teacher will give each student their access key and allow them to vote.3. After all the students have voted the teacher should give each student a copy of the handout.4. The students should read the handout carefully and be ready to discuss information.5. The teacher should then ask the students each discussion question.<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) From an economics perspective, what are the benefits and costs of voting in national elections?2) Do the costs and benefits of becoming informed on the issues and voting in national elections differ from the costs and benefits of voting in local elections? Why or why not?6. The students should discuss each question and share ideas.
Evaluation	The teacher will give a short quiz asking: What is the legal voting age in the United States? What are some examples of Rational Apathy and Rational Ignorance? If your vote doesn't count, why do 18 years old and older choose to vote?

¹ http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/docs_lessons/576_Handout_voting_lesson1.pdf