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Women's right to vote

SPEAKING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_2064S_EN

LANGUAGE
English

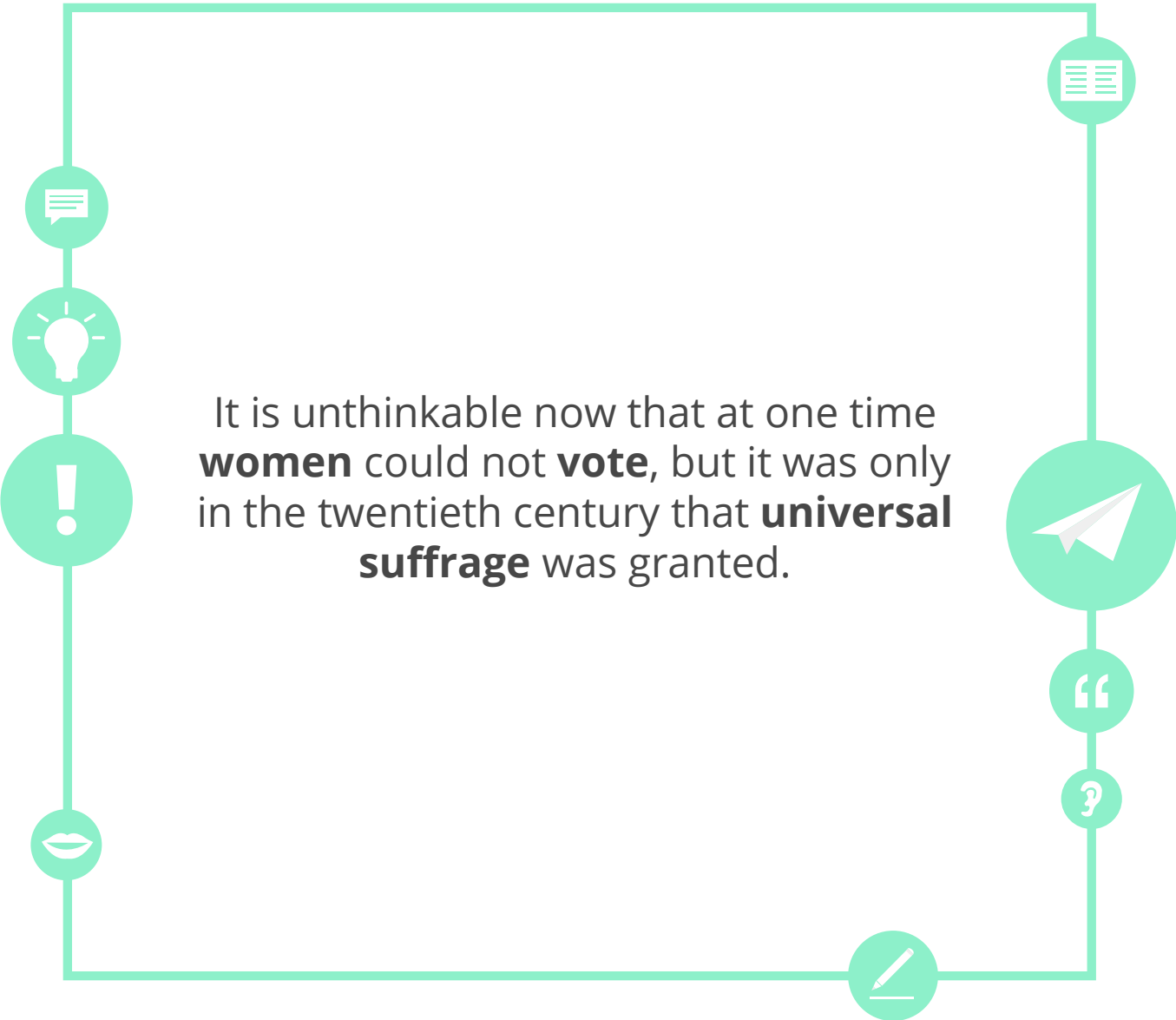




Goals

- Can read, listen to and understand a complex text about women's right to vote.
- Can react appropriately to surprising information and present my own thoughts on voting and women's right to vote.





It is unthinkable now that at one time **women** could not **vote**, but it was only in the twentieth century that **universal suffrage** was granted.



Voting

Have you ever voted? Why or why not?





A legal obligation to vote

In some countries, such as Australia, it is a legal obligation for citizens to vote.

Is it the same in your country?
What do you think about voting being mandatory?





Different types of voting

**Do you think it's
important to vote in
these types of
elections?**

general
elections

local elections

referendums



Do you know these words? They will appear in the text.

suffrage

doctrine

pioneer

able-bodied



suffragette

enfranchisement

militant

arson



Women's right to vote

For the vast majority of human history, women have been denied the right to vote. It is only within the past 130 years that most nations have granted women the vote universally. The nineteenth century saw women's **suffrage** become a major issue in democratic countries, most notably in the USA and the UK. However, these were not the countries in which women gained universal suffrage first.





Women's right to vote

There are many contenders for where women first gained the right to vote, however, if we are referring to the right to vote universally, across all classes and statuses, we must look to New Zealand as the **pioneer**. Women got suffrage in New Zealand in 1893, followed by Australia in 1906 and Finland and Norway before the outbreak of the First World War. However, it is not these countries but the United Kingdom which is often seen as **exemplifying** the violent **suffragette** movement. Beginning in 1903, huge campaigns, marches, and **militant** action were seen in the UK. Up until the outbreak of World War One, **arson**, property damage, and domestic terrorism were common features of suffragette action in the UK.





The first countries

Are you surprised by which countries gave women the vote first? Why or why not?



The Southern Hemisphere



Nordic countries



Why couldn't women vote?

What reasons can you think of as to why women were historically excluded from voting?





Suffragette tactics

Below are some of the tactics used by suffragettes while fighting for enfranchisement. Do you think they were justified in using violent tactics?



marches

arson

property damage

domestic terrorism



Get ready to listen

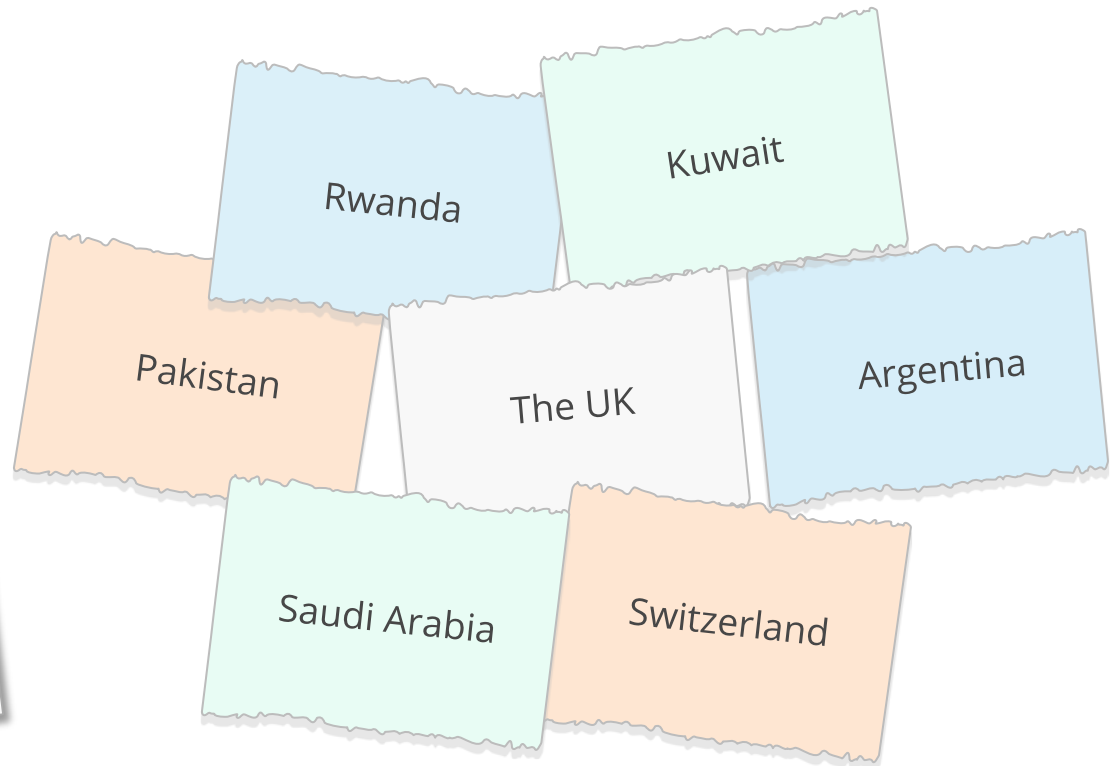


The next few slides will focus on training your listening comprehension



Put the countries in order

Before you listen, decide in which order you think these countries granted women the right to vote. While you are listening, check if you were right.





Order of the countries



Are you surprised by the order of the countries? Did you expect some countries to give the vote earlier or later than others?



Your country

Do you know when women were granted the right to vote in your country? Below are the dates some more countries allowed women to vote. Discuss your reactions with your teacher.

Poland: 1918

Afghanistan:
1963

Mexico: 1953

Liechtenstein:
1984



What changed?

Which do you think had a greater impact on changing women's voting rights: the suffragette movement or the first and second world wars?





The Vatican

**Why do you think the
Vatican City won't
allow women to vote?
Do you think this will
ever change?**



Voting age

At what age do people get the right to vote in your country? Do you think it is the right age? Are there any restrictions on who can vote in your country?





Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

Exercise p. 14

The UK, Argentina, Pakistan, Rwanda, Switzerland, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia

Exercise p. 18

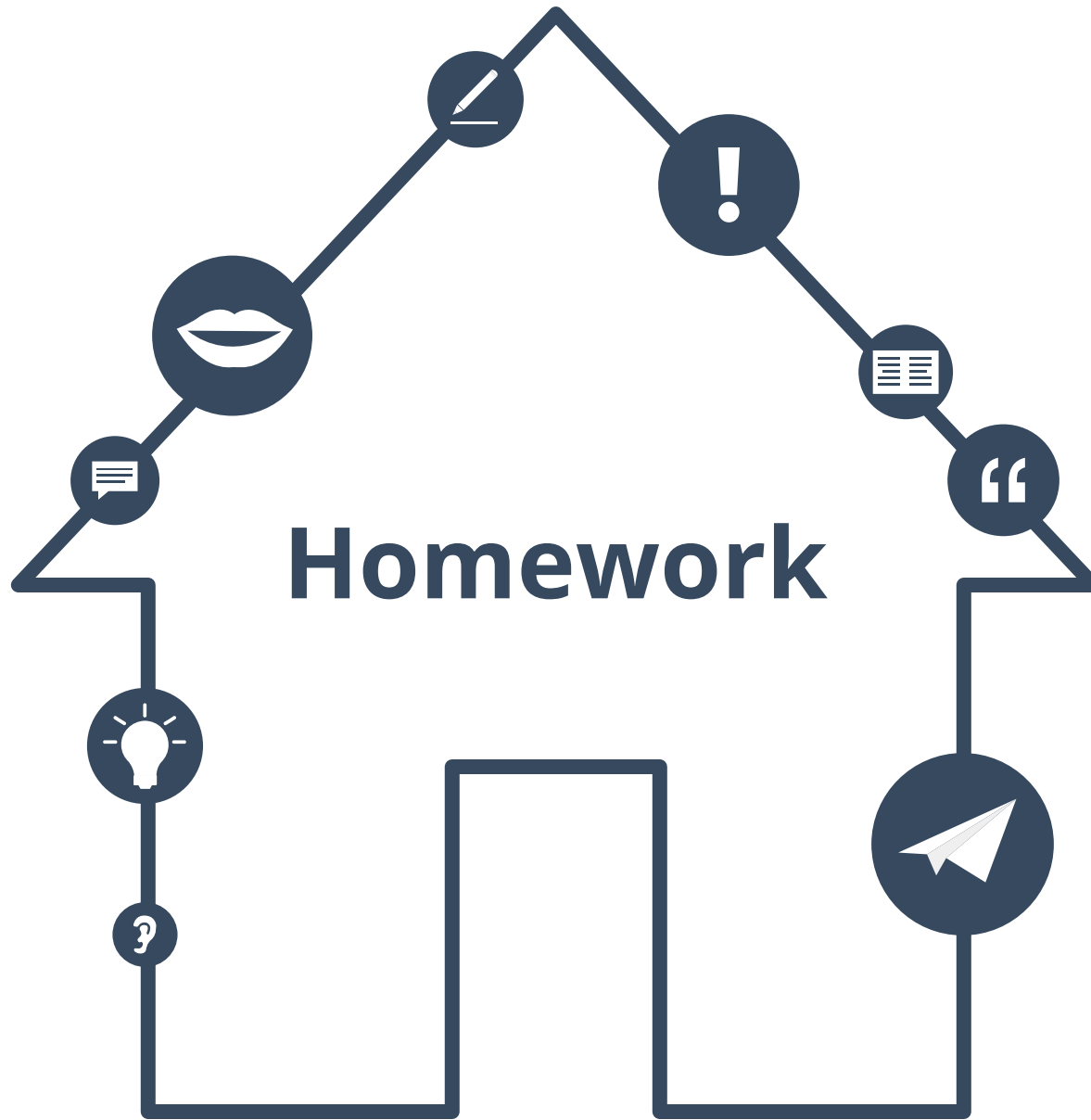
The Vatican City does not allow anyone to vote who is not a cardinal. As women are not allowed to be cardinals, they cannot vote.



Transcription

The First World War and its aftermath saw women take a huge step forward regarding **enfranchisement**, despite suffragette groups stopping their violent campaigns to support the war effort. In many industrialised nations fighting in World War One, a shortage of **able-bodied** men meant that women took on a large amount of the roles traditionally assigned to men in society. As they joined the labour force, old reasons connected to occupational exclusions of women from voting broke down, and men began to see that women were equally capable as they were themselves. Between 1914 and 1939, 28 countries, including the UK and the USA, granted women universal suffrage.

After the Second World War countries all over the world began to grant universal suffrage to women, including countries as diverse as Argentina in 1947, Pakistan in 1956, and Rwanda in 1961. On the contrary, Muslim-majority countries in the Persian Gulf were some of the last to grant women the vote; Kuwait gave women the right to vote in 2005, while Saudi Arabia finally allowed women to vote in the 2015 elections. This story contains yet more surprises; Switzerland only enfranchised women in 1971, much later than any of its counterparts in the democratic, developed world. Now, however, there is only one country in the world where women do not have the right to vote, and it is the Vatican City, where religious **doctrine** rules.





Fill in the gaps

1. New Zealand was the first country to grant women universal _____.
2. In the United Kingdom and the USA, groups of women called _____ fought for _____.
3. The First World War saw a _____ of able-bodied men, and women stepped into their roles.
4. _____ was the most recent country to grant women the right to vote.
5. _____ still does not let women vote.

**The Vatican
City**

suffragettes

shortage

suffrage

enfranchisement

Saudi Arabia



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 24

1. suffrage, 2. suffrages, enfranchisement, 3. shortage, 4 Saudi Arabia, 5. The Vatican City

