

Which Victoria will you wake up in?

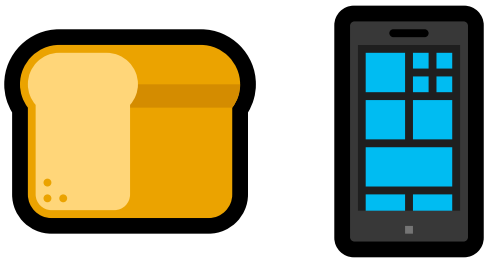
A CHOOSE-YOUR-OWN-ADVENTURE · VICTORIA 2026

It's November. The election is on Saturday 28 November. Two very different Victorias are waiting on the other side of it.

You get to make the choices. Some of them change the ending.

A story, not a forecast. The facts in it are real and sourced at the bottom of each page.

Begin the story: turn to page 1.



Toast, and a text

It's a Thursday morning, sixteen days before the election. You're eating toast and reading the news.

The latest poll says the Liberals and Nationals are winning, 57 to 43 after preferences.[1]

Your phone buzzes. It's your friend Priya.

"*We're doing a campaign day on Saturday. Want to come? There's a kettle and a box of Tim Tams.*"

"Count me in!": turn to page 2.

"Nah, politics isn't really my thing.": turn to page 3.

Sources:

1. abc.net.au/news/2026-11-11/victoria-election-blog-november-11/107371790



The campaign office

The campaign office is a shopfront with folding tables, a whiteboard and a kettle that sounds like a jet engine.

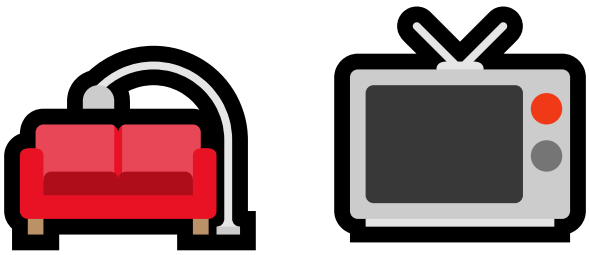
Priya hands you a lanyard. "*Welcome! Everyone helps in their own way. What do you feel like doing today?*"

Knock on doors and chat to neighbours: turn to page 4.

Sit with a phone and call voters: turn to page 5.

Deliver flyers to letterboxes: turn to page 6.

Go home and talk to my own family and friends: turn to page 7.



The couch

You stay on the couch. The days go by. You scroll past a lot of angry ads.

Then your nan rings. "*Love, I don't know who to vote for. They're all the same, aren't they?*"

"They're not all the same, Nan. Want me to come over and talk it through?": turn to page 7.

"Yeah, Nan, they're all the same.": turn to page 11.



Knock, knock

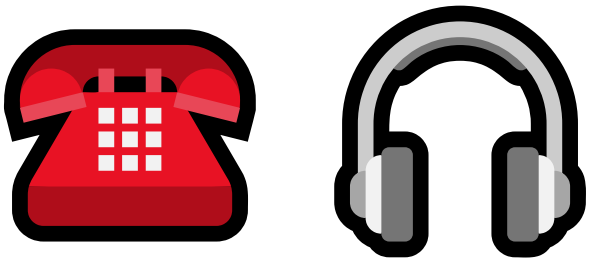
At number 14 lives Mrs Kowalski. She opens the door with a dog under one arm.

"*My power bill's gone up again, and I can't afford the dentist. I was thinking of voting One Nation, to be honest. Shake them all up.*"

You have a clipboard, a how-to-vote card, and about thirty seconds.

Listen first, then talk about the things she just told you matter: turn to page 8.

Explain preferential voting to her for twenty minutes: turn to page 9.



The phone bank

You sit down with a headset and a list of names. The first three people don't answer. The fourth is Dave.

"*Mate, I rent. My rent went up a hundred bucks a week. They're all the same.*"

You don't argue. You ask Dave what would make his week easier. He says the train to work costs a fortune.

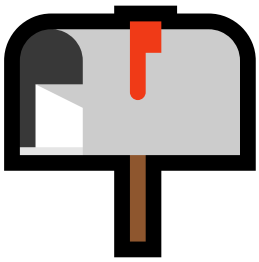
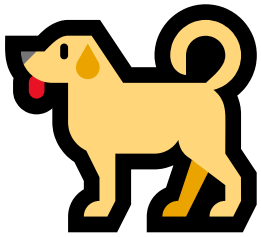
You tell him Labor has promised to cap public transport fares at $30 a week, and the Greens want them to be free.[1][2]

"*Huh. Didn't know that.*"

Thank Dave, and keep calling: turn to page 8.

Sources:

1. abc.net.au/news/2026-10-19/victorian-labor-pledges-public-transport-fare-cap/107280670
2. greens.org.au/vic/news/media-release/greens-say-labor-has-no-excuse-make-victorians-pay-more-public-transport-end


The letterbox drop

You have six hundred flyers and a map with a highlighter line on it.

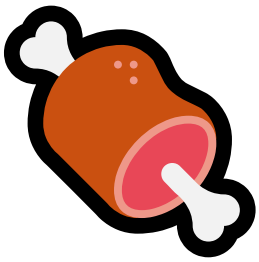
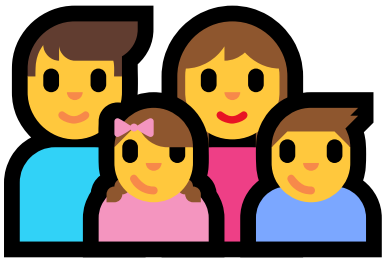
A dog barks at you from behind every third fence. One letterbox is shaped like a cow. Your legs are sore by street four.

A kid on a scooter asks what you're doing. "*Telling people there's an election,*" you say.

"*Can I help?*"

Lots of people decide in the last week. Plenty of them read the flyer on the fridge.

Let the kid carry the cow-letterbox flyers: turn to page 8.

The family barbecue

Uncle Rob is at the barbie, flipping sausages. "*Labor's wrecked the budget,*" he says.

You don't pretend he's wrong about the debt. It's big: about $199 billion forecast by 2030.[1] But you point out that economists say the other side's plan has a hole of around $9 billion too.[2]

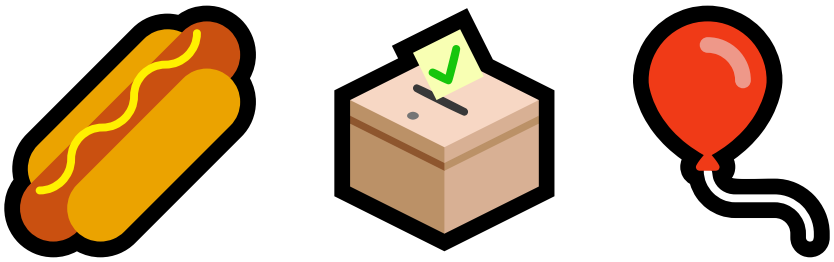
Then you ask him what he actually wants. Shorter hospital waits, he says. Your cousin wants the Treaty kept. Nan wants to know how to fill in the big white ballot paper.

You show her: on the big white one, number more than one box above the line, so her vote keeps counting.

Pass the sauce and head to polling day: turn to page 8.

Sources:

1. bendigoadvertiser.com.au/story/9239642/state-budget-2026-victorias-debt-to-reach-200-billion-by-2030/
2. abc.net.au/news/2026-10-19/economists-concerns-liberal-coalition-surplus-plan/107280322



Polling day

It's Saturday 28 November. The school hall smells like sausages. Early voting started on 18 November, and lots of people have already voted.[1]

Mrs Kowalski waves at you in the queue. Dave texts: "*Voted. Fares, mate.*"

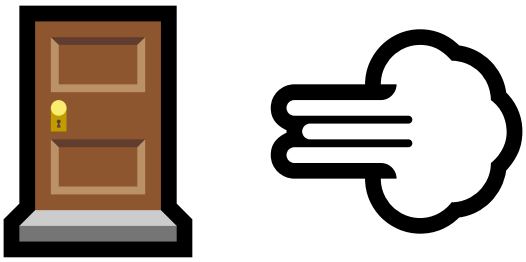
You take your green ballot paper into the little cardboard booth.

Number every box, in the order I choose: turn to page 10.

Just put a 1 next to one name and leave the rest: turn to page 12.

Sources:

1. vec.vic.gov.au/voting/2026-state-election



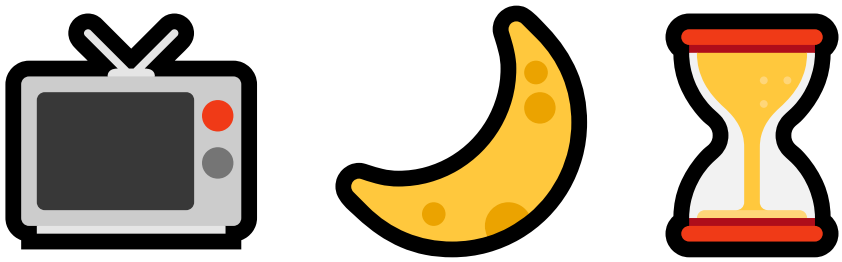
The door closes

Twenty minutes in, you're halfway through a diagram of how preferences flow. Mrs Kowalski is very politely closing the door.

The dog looks disappointed in you.

Door knocking is mostly listening. People remember how you made them feel, not the diagram.

Try the next house, and listen this time: turn to page 8.



Election night

You're on the couch with everyone from the campaign office. The TV says it's **too close to call**.

Seats are falling one by one. A few thousand votes here, a few hundred there. Some of those are Mrs Kowalski, and Dave, and Nan.

By midnight, the numbers are in.

See the Victoria you helped build: turn to page 13.



The other Victoria

Not many people knocked on doors this time. On election night the Liberals and Nationals win, with One Nation holding the balance in the upper house.[1]

Here's what they promised. Some of it is good for some people:

- First home buyers pay no stamp duty on homes up to $1 million.[2]
- Money for 25,000 extra elective surgeries a year.[3]
- The Suburban Rail Loop is paused while it's reviewed.[4]
- 7,184 fewer public servants in the first two and a half years.[5]
- The Treaty with First Peoples is scrapped.[3]
- The VNI West transmission line is scrapped, and coal is kept running longer.[6]
- One Nation's price for its votes: its Open Cabinet Act passed within 100 days. It also wants the age of criminal responsibility back down to 10.[7][8]

But wait. If you're reading this before 28 November, this hasn't happened yet.

Go back to the start and choose differently: turn to page 1.

Sources:

1. roymorgan.com/findings/victorian-state-voting-intention-l-np-coalition-and-one-nation-set-for-a-majority-in-victorias-upper-house-in-november
2. vicliberal.org.au/article/2026-05-08-liberals-and-nationals-launch-comprehensive-10-year-economic-plan-media-release-speech
3. abc.net.au/news/2026-11-04/victoria-2026-election-policy-promise-tracker/107247200
4. abc.net.au/news/2026-11-01/victorian-election-labor-liberal-tough-battle/107331376
5. thenightly.com.au/politics/victoria-public-service-hiring-freeze-pitched-to-help-budget-fix-c-22253397
6. abc.net.au/news/2026-08-19/victorian-coalition-promises-to-scrap-vni-west-transmission-line/107053638
7. vic.onenation.org.au/policies/open-the-cabinet-papers
8. abc.net.au/news/2026-10-03/one-nation-launches-victorian-election-campaign/107223676





Oops! Informal

On the green ballot paper you have to number **every** box. A single 1 on its own can mean your vote doesn't count at all. It's called an informal vote.

Luckily, this is a story. You ask the polling official for a fresh ballot paper, which you're allowed to do if you make a mistake.

Try again: number every box: turn to page 10.



The Victoria you helped build

Labor holds on. In the upper house, the Greens and a few crossbenchers hold the balance, and they push Labor further.

It's 2030 now. Here's a glimpse:

- Mrs Kowalski gets her teeth fixed at one of 20 new free public dental clinics. The Greens are still pushing for free dental care for everyone.[1][2]
- Dave's fares were capped at $30 a week, and the Greens keep pushing to make public transport free.[3][4]
- The Suburban Rail Loop East tunnels keep being dug.[5]
- Wind and solar keep growing, on the way to 95% renewables by 2035.[6]
- Twelve emergency departments are bigger, with 1,500 more health workers. Uncle Rob's hospital wait is shorter.[7]
- The Treaty stays. So do the laws against stirring up hatred of LGBTIQ+ people, and your cousin feels safer.[8][9]
- Crime keeps falling, the way it had started to: in the year to June 2026, criminal incidents fell 2.9% and reports from victims fell 6%.[10] Police get the 1,500 extra officers Labor promised, and nothing like an age-10 crackdown. The Greens keep pushing for crisis workers, so police aren't the only ones sent when someone is unwell.[11][12]

> **Is this likely?** Honestly, not on the polls in mid-November: they point to a Coalition win, and Roy Morgan's upper house model gives Labor 9 seats and the Greens 2, out of 40.[13][14] This future needs a lot of people to change their minds. That's what door knocking, phone calls, flyers and family barbecues are for.

Read the page for grown-ups: turn to page 14.

Start again: turn to page 1.

Sources:

1. viclabor.org.au/news/labor-will-deliver-20-new-dental-clinics
2. greens.org.au/vic/platform/dental
3. abc.net.au/news/2026-10-19/victorian-labor-pledges-public-transport-fare-cap/107280670
4. greens.org.au/vic/news/media-release/greens-say-labor-has-no-excuse-make-victorians-pay-more-public-transport-end
5. premier.vic.gov.au/labor-will-build-suburban-rail-loop-and-save-money
6. premier.vic.gov.au/our-18-billion-energy-jobs-guarantee-regional-victoria
7. viclabor.org.au/news/labor-will-slash-wait-times
8. parliament.vic.gov.au/news/society/treaty-bill-passed/
9. aapnews.aap.com.au/news/premier-hails-hate-law-revamp-as-toughest-in-the-nation
10. crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/media-centre/news/key-figures-year-ending-june-2026
11. canberratimes.com.au/story/9349270/more-police-on-beat-as-state-tackles-crime-crisis/
12. abc.net.au/news/2026-10-08/victoria-greens-state-supermarkets-election-campaign/107239256
13. abc.net.au/news/2026-11-11/victoria-election-blog-november-11/107371790
14. roymorgan.com/findings/victorian-state-voting-intention-l-np-coalition-and-one-nation-set-for-a-majority-in-victorias-upper-house-in-november



For the grown-ups: do it for real

Vote

- Early voting runs from Wednesday 18 November to 6pm Friday 27 November.
- Election day is Saturday 28 November, 8am to 6pm.
- Postal vote applications close at 6pm on Wednesday 25 November.
- The roll has closed, but if you're eligible and missed it, you can still vote at a voting centre. Details: vec.vic.gov.au.

Help a campaign

- Door knocking, phone banking, letterbox drops and handing out how-to-vote cards on the day are all done by volunteers. One shift helps.
- The Greens: greens.org.au/vic/volunteer
- Labor: viclabor.org.au, or contact your local Labor candidate's office.
- Or work for the electoral commission itself, which is a paid, neutral job: VEC election jobs.

Talk to the people you love

- Ask what matters to them before you say what matters to you.
- Not sure yourself? Take the 3-minute quiz. Every party position in it is sourced.
- Every promise in this story, with its source, is on rawauspol.com/elections/vic-2026.

Raw Aus Pol leans Labor and Greens and says so. The facts in this story are sourced; the endings are a story, not a forecast. Independent commentary by a private individual. Not paid for, endorsed or authorised by any party or candidate.

Start again: turn to the cover.

Printing copies to hand out? Victorian law requires this:

Authorised by _____ (full name)

_____ (street address, not a PO box)