

Name:

Class:

ELECTIONS IN JAMAICA



Instruction: Read the following information on the different types of elections in Jamaica and use the information to choose the correct answer the questions below.

There are four (4) types of elections that are held in Jamaica. They are as follows:

General Election- used to elect members of parliament for each constituency, the party with the most members of parliament from the 63 constituencies automatically becomes the government. It is done every five (5) years. The last general election held last year saw the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) winning 49 of the 63 constituencies to remain the ruling Government.

Local Government election- used to elect individuals for various local offices in government such as parish councillors and mayors. It is conducted shortly after general elections. The last local Government elections were held on November 28, 2016.

By-election- it occurs when a vacancy occurs for a member of parliament from a constituency/ seat in the House of Representatives due to death or resignation. The last By- Election was held on March 2, 2020 .

Referendum- used to make proposed changes to the constitution, where all eligible persons of a country vote yes or no to the proposed changes. (eg .9 September 1961. Voters were asked "Should Jamaica remain in the Federation of the West Indies?" The result was 54.1% voting "no", resulting in the country leaving the federation and its dissolution in 1962)

Questions

1. There are _____ types of elections held in Jamaica

- a) Two(2)
- b) Four(4)
- c) Six(6)

2. General Elections are held every _____ years in Jamaica

- a) Three(3)
- b) Four(4)
- c) Five(5)

3. Local Elections are used to elect various individuals for offices such as

- a) Mayor & parish councillor
- b) Member of Parliament & Mayor
- c) Senator & Custos

4. The Last Referendum was held in _____

- a) 1692
- b) 1944
- c) 1961

5. A By- Election can be held to fill a vacant position under ALL of the following circumstances EXCEPT

- a) A member of parliament is ill
- b) A member of parliament dies
- c) A member of parliament resigns

6. Jamaica currently has _____ constituencies

- a) 60
- b) 63
- c) 65

7. How many constituencies did the People's National Party obtain in the last election?

- a) 14
- b) 16
- c) 18

8. In what year was the last Local election held in Jamaica?

- a) 2011
- b) 2016
- c) 2020

9. General Elections are used to elect various individuals for the office of:

- a) Member of Parliament
- b) Parish Councillor
- c) Custos

10. A referendum is used to make proposed changes to the constitution, what proposed change was voted on in Jamaica's last referendum?

- a) "Should Abortion be legalized in Jamaica"
- b) "Should the Caribbean Court of justice be the final Court of Appeal in Jamaica"
- c) "Should Jamaica remain in the Federation of the West Indies?"