

Read the three texts below. Guess what the legal ages are in each of the different countries for the activities mentioned in the texts. Then listen to people talking about the laws in each of the countries. Fill in the gaps as you listen, and check if your guesses were correct.

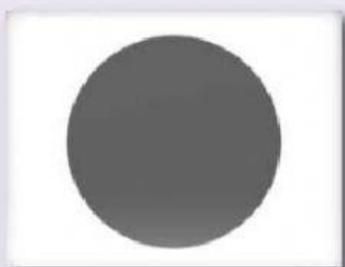
legal ages in different countries



The law in Australia says that young people are adults at _____. That's when they can vote. No, not 'can' – they have to vote when they are adults - in Australia, it's the law. Young people can leave school at _____ and they can drive at _____. Australians can get married at _____ if their parents agree.



In the US, you can vote at _____ and in most states you can drive at _____. The age at which you can do other things is different from state to state. In some states, for example, Arkansas, you have to stay at school until you're _____, but in other states like Alaska, you can leave school at _____. In most states, you can get married at _____ if your parents agree. In California, you can marry at _____ if your parents agree!



In Japan, young people can leave school at _____ and drive at _____. The law in Japan says that people are adults at _____. They have special celebrations then. Japanese people can vote when they are _____. Girls can get married at _____ but boys have to wait until they're _____. I don't know why boys have to be older than girls.

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Read the information in the completed texts on page 46, and answer the questions below. Write your answers on the writing lines.

- a** Where do you have to be 20 before you can vote? _____
- b** Where can you drive a car at 16? _____
- c** Where does the law say you have to vote when you are an adult? _____
- d** Where do you have to be 18 before you can leave school? _____
- e** Where can you drive at 17? _____
- f** Where do boys have to wait longer than girls to get married? _____