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Night time alphabet

Find 5 differences between images below!
Children, we are all different but equal! That includes the right to participate in elections!

Look, there is a blind person with a cane walking in our schoolyard.

Teacher, how do blind people vote since they can't see what’s written on the ballot paper?

That’s a very good question! I will try to give you an answer...
Now, everybody close your eyes please. We will travel back in time a little. Imagine that we are all now in the year 1808.

The French troops of Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Spain...

Colonel, here’s a secret dispatch from the general! It’s urgent!

Turn on the flashlight! I can’t see anything!

Yes, Sir!

Sir!!

Urgently! It’s an order! Devise a way to write dispatches that can be read in the dark!

Oh! No!

Hisssss
Let's go forward in time: year 1821.

1821

We are in Paris, at the National School for the Blind.

Mr. Principal, I want to suggest a new reading system for the blind children in your school.

 Hmm... Alright. Give it a try!

The system consists of raised dots imprinted on heavy paper. It was devised during the war in order to read dispatches in the dark.

Dear students, you have been using my reading system in your learning for a month now. How do you find it?

It's much easier!

We can read faster!

It's great!

I would like to add something...

Please do, Louis. Attention. Louis Braille wants to tell us something!

Story 1 to be continued...
The alphabet you suggested is very good, but a bit complicated. I have an idea on how to improve it!

If we reduce the number of dots used in the alphabet down to 6 and use different combinations of them when writing, reading texts will become even faster and easier!

I'm sure it's better this way and I won't give up on my idea!

Braille, you are only 12! You're too young for this kind of recommendations!

Children, you can now open your eyes!

Indeed, Louis Braille did not forget his idea and at the age of only 15 he devised a new writing system for the blind, still used worldwide and known as the Braille Alphabet!

Using this alphabet, blind people can communicate, read books and newspapers.

Can they vote too?

Yes, they can! All polling stations in Moldova have screen envelopes on the surface of which Braille raised dots are imprinted!

With the help of this screen envelope, the blind person can choose the preferred candidate by his number in the ballot paper!

Story 1

6

to be continued...
Can we try it too?

Yes, sure! Let's first learn the numbers!

The digits 1, 2, 3, 4 in Braille code look like this...

The digits 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 0 look like this. Which means that number 10 will be a combination of the digits 1 and 0.

It's easy, interesting and useful!

Now we can use an elevator with our eyes closed.

When I get home, I will tell my grandma that she can vote on her own despite her bad eyesight and lack of glasses!

Yes, with the help of the Braille alphabet and the screen envelope, all blind people will be able to vote on their own! We are all different but equal! And the film envelope is of great help in this respect.

Story 1

The End
Take down the obstacles!

Find 5 differences between images below!
25 days before election day

I am a member of a Precinct Electoral Bureau. I have to hurry to our first meeting.

Hello! Is this 112 emergency service? Please, come immediately!

Archi, unfortunately both of your legs are fractured! You will have to stay in a cast for a month.

This means I won't be able to participate in the election...

Story 2
Why not? With the help of a wheelchair you will be able to continue an active social life!

This is great! I need to go to the polling station! My colleagues are waiting for me!

Oooh, huuhh! This curb didn't seem so high in the past!

Let me help you!

Yes, please!

I passed the first obstacle – the curb. What do I do now?

Hello! Colleagues, I need your help!

Good thing the school entrance door is wide enough and the threshold isn't high!

No, I won't be able to get through here! What can I do? How am I going to do my job as a member of the Electoral Bureau? How am I going to vote? That's impossible!

Story 2
Archi, are you alright?

You slipped on a banana peel and hit your head...

It means... my legs aren't broken!!!
We urgently need to improve the access to the polling station.
We still have some time left before the election!

3 days before the election

Dear colleagues, thank you very much for your efforts!!!
In such a short time, we managed to make our polling station much more accessible for people with disabilities!

Great!

With the help of the nearby construction company, we improved the curb.
Now this is not an obstacle for people with disabilities.

The mayoralty, at our request, installed an access ramp at the entrance to the school.

The polling station was moved from a small classroom with a narrow door to the gym!
The voters in wheelchairs can now take part in the election without any obstacles!

Story 2 11 to be continued...
Election day

It's 7 a.m. We can start the voting! Here's the first voter!

When I heard you installed an access ramp I decided to be the first one to vote!!!

You are accessibility champions!

We also have a specially equipped voting booth for people with disabilities!

Attention: people with disabilities are not the only ones to use the ramp and the special voting booth.

Yes! Accessibility, as well as election, is for everyone!
In the world of signs

Find 5 differences between images below!
In the world of signs

Hello!

During today's lesson, we will talk about elections and access to the electoral process.

First we will watch an educational video made by the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training (CICDE).

Teacher, who is the lady in the corner of the screen and what is she doing?

I am not the 'lady in the corner'... My name is Maria... Do you want to know what I'm doing? Come with me...

Oooooo, aaaa, wuuuu!!!
We are in the world of sign languages. The city of the Latin alphabet.

There are more than 100 sign languages in the world. They are independent of the languages spoken in one country or another...

Hmmm... I thought that all people with hearing impairment speak one and the same sign language...

People with hearing impairment from Moldova can easily understand their friends from the USA even if they do not know English. They can also understand news from the USA translated into the sign language...

It all started in the Middle Ages. The monks who took a vow of silence still needed to speak... That's how the first sign language came about.

This sign means Water.
At present, sign languages are much more developed than in the Middle Ages. There is even poetry in sign language... Sign language is actually recognized as an official language in New Zealand and Iceland!

It’s time for you to return to the classroom!
Thank you for this interesting journey into the world of sign languages!

I’ll see you later!!!
Teacher, it is very important that people with hearing impairments are well informed about elections!

Absolutely right! Translating news and other election-related information into sign language makes the electoral process much more accessible, inclusive and fair!

Guys, let me tell you about the world of signs! It’s so fascinating! I think sign language is worth learning!

Great! It sounds interesting! You’ll have to tell us!
Hi there, friends!

We are glad to meet again on the pages of the electoral comic book! The adventures of Arci and his friends continue!

You hold in your hands the fourth edition of the electoral comic book, dedicated to inclusion and accessibility. Arci knows that the right to vote and to be elected is a universal right of all citizens and is not conditioned by skin colour, gender, social status or disability.

What will Arci do to ensure inclusive elections? How can the accessibility of polling stations and the electoral process as a whole be improved? To find out what Arci did we invite you to read the fourth edition of the electoral comic book, created by CICDE!

If you have questions to Arci or the CICDE team, e-mail us at info@cicde.md or visit the Facebook page of the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training (CICDE).

Best regards,
CICDE Team

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