

# 'Defenders of Democracy' Comprehension Answers

1. List three different political ideologies mentioned in the text.

**Any three from: liberal, conservative, nationalist, socialist, capitalist, green, fascist and communist.**

2. In the second paragraph, what impression is given by the words 'bicker and squabble'?

**The words suggest that politics involves a lot of disagreement and the infantile connotations of these words imply that politicians often resort to arguing like small children would.**

3. When can democracy be traced back to?

**Its roots are in Ancient Greece, although democracy as we know it dates back no further than the Reform Act of 1832.**

4. Why was Old Sarum known as a "rotten borough"?

**The area was "rotten" because it signified the failings and injustices of a democratic system that hadn't progressed from a feudal system that unfairly gave landowners all the power and rights.**

5. Why is a secret ballot necessary in a full democracy?

**A secret ballot is needed to make the vote fair, otherwise pressure can be exerted on more vulnerable voters to back a candidate against their will.**

6. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, what percentage of the world's population lived in a full democracy in 2016?

**A paltry 4.5%.**