

Worksheet: Will a Snap Election Help Japan's First Female Premier?

STEP 1: READING COMPREHENSION

1. What is currently being speculated about in Japan?

- (A) A new economic policy.
- (B) A potential snap election.
- (C) The resignation of the premier.
- (D) A major international summit.

2. According to the text, what is a snap election often considered?

- (A) A guaranteed success.
- (B) A necessary formality.
- (C) A political gamble.
- (D) A sign of weakness.

3. What is one risk mentioned for a leader calling an early election?

- (A) They might gain too much support.
- (B) Voters might disagree with the timing or reasons.
- (C) Political analysts might stop debating.
- (D) The party's position will automatically strengthen.

STEP 2: GAP FILL EXERCISE**Word Bank:**

gamble premier outcomes speculation mandate

There's _____ in Japan about a potential upcoming snap election this Sunday. The main question is whether this early election, called by the 'first female _____' of Japan, would be a successful move. Such an election is often a political _____, where a leader hopes to strengthen their party's position or gain a clearer _____ from the public. However, it also carries the risk of losing support if voters disagree with the timing or the reasons for the early vote. Political analysts are debating the potential _____ and whether such a bold strategy would indeed pay off for the new leader.

STEP 3: WORD POWER (MATCHING)

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| 1. speculation | (a) An official order or commission to do something; the authority given by voters to a party or candidate. |
| 2. premier | (b) Take a risky action in the hope of a desired result. |
| 3. gamble | (c) An act of forming a theory or conjecture without firm evidence. |
| 4. mandate | (d) A leader or head of government. |

STEP 4: DAILY LIFE USAGE

Complete the sentences about daily life using words from the article.

1. Deciding to quit your stable job to start a new business can feel like a big _____.

2. The new fitness program helped me _____ my core muscles significantly.

3. My parents gave me a clear _____ to clean my room before I could go out with friends.

STEP 5: CRITICAL THINKING

Considering the 'political gamble' aspect of a snap election, discuss how a leader might weigh the short-term benefits (like strengthening position) against potential long-term damage to their credibility or public trust if the gamble fails.

Answer Key (Teacher Use):

- 1. Comprehension: 1:B, 2:C, 3:B
- 2. Cloze: speculation, premier, gamble, mandate, outcomes
- 3. Daily Life: 1:gamble, 2:strengthen, 3:mandate