

Polling station decisions

Dawlish is a lovely seaside town in Devon, with beaches, cream teas and lots of tourists in the summer. There are also many elderly people in Dawlish who have retired there.

Everyone over 18 in Dawlish is eligible to vote when there is an election. A place must be chosen as the polling station where people will go to vote. Perhaps you are already aware of this, and have had a day off school when your school was chosen as a polling station.

Task

Using the information below and the map at www.election-maps.co.uk, you decide where the best place would be to host the polling station. You must give reasons why you chose the location and also reasons why you did not choose other locations. You can use the writing frame in the final paragraph to help you structure the answers.

Include a sketch map of the area (taken from election maps website) showing which site you chose. You can also annotate this map to say why you made your choice.

How to

Click on *European region* and type in *South West*. Type the postcode *EX7 9AL* and zoom your map to a size where you can see the leisure centre, the museum and Luscombe Castle.

The candidates

- a) Dawlish leisure centre is a modern building with a swimming pool, two sports halls, a gym, changing rooms, squash courts and other facilities. It is a busy place, being well used by the community. The staff are very professional and the building is open from early morning until 9 or 10 pm. The Leisure Centre has a large car park. The location of the leisure centre is out of town, to the north, and is uphill from the centre of town. It is close to the main road to Exeter – a city about 12 miles away, and is not on a main bus route.
- b) The museum details old Dawlish life, exhibits include photos from 100 years ago, before there were cars. It is run by friendly volunteers and is busy in the summer, but is closed in the winter. The museum is in the centre of town near Brook Street, with the main shopping streets being about 500 metres away. It is quite a small building. There is a large car park nearby, which is pay and display, and buses are frequent. It is close to the main road to Exeter – a city about 12 miles away.
- c) Luscombe Castle is set in peaceful countryside to the west of the town. It is a beautiful property with gardens and grounds. Luscombe Castle is privately owned and therefore not usually open to the public. The roads leading to it are country lanes with only room for one car. There are few buses along this route. There is no actual car park but there is plenty of room in the surrounding area.

You can use the writing frame below to give you a structure

I decided that the best place to put the polling station in Dawlish was

The main reason for my decision was

Another reason I decided this was the best place was

A further reason was

I did not want to put the polling station at.....

Because

However, there were some good points to this venue, such as.....

In my opinion, the worst place to put the polling station is.....

It did have some points in its favour, such as

However, the negative factors that make it no good as a polling station are

.....



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Ordnance Survey and the OS Symbol are registered trademarks of Ordnance Survey, the national mapping agency of Great Britain.

D02659g Aug 2004