

What is the Constitution?

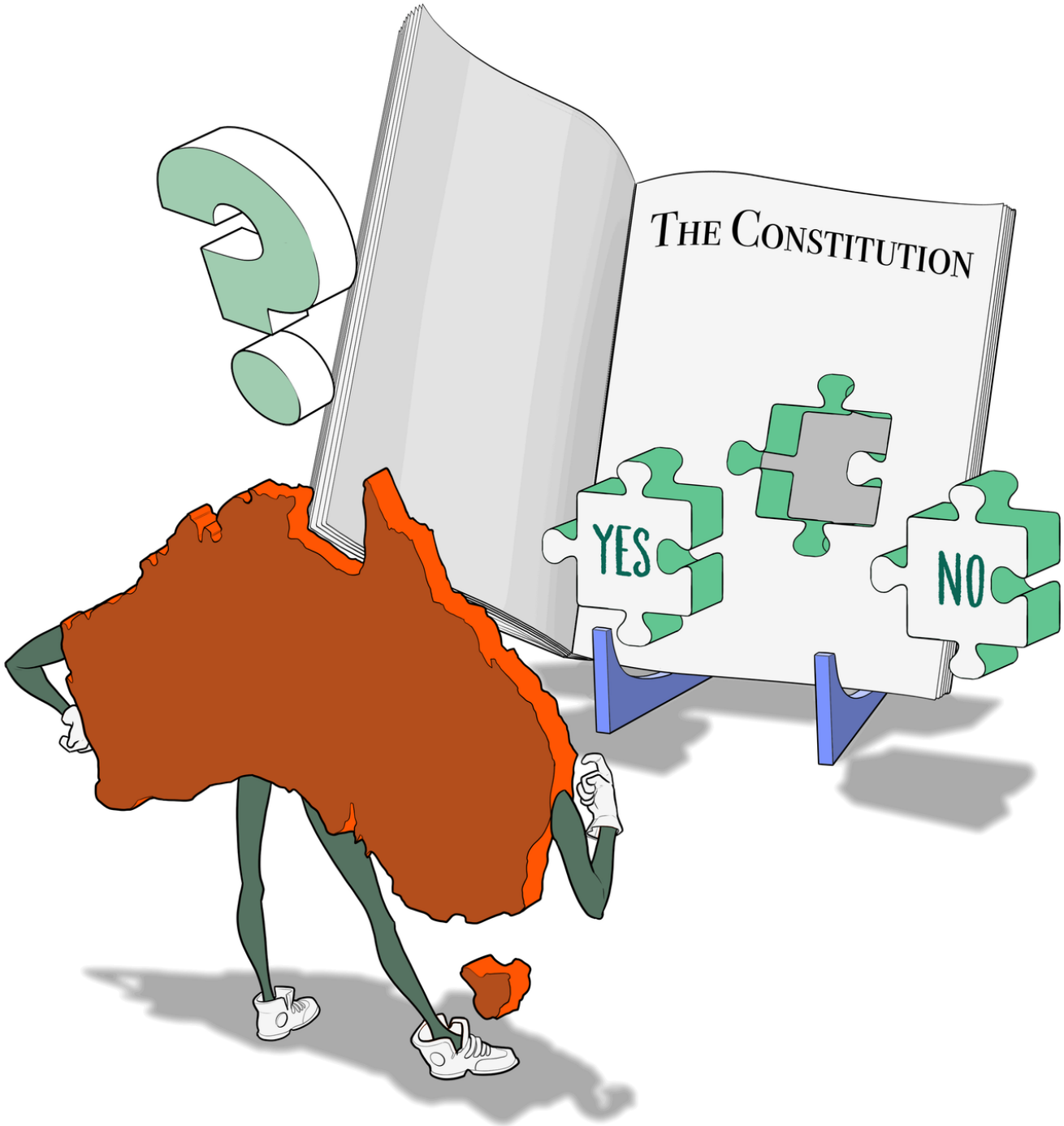
The Constitution is like a rulebook.



It is the foundation document of Australian government –
an agreement between the Australian government and the public.

Why do we have referendums?

A referendum is a national vote in which Australians vote yes or no to a proposed change to the Constitution.



Australians have been asked 44 times if they would like to change the Constitution, but have only agreed to the change 8 times.

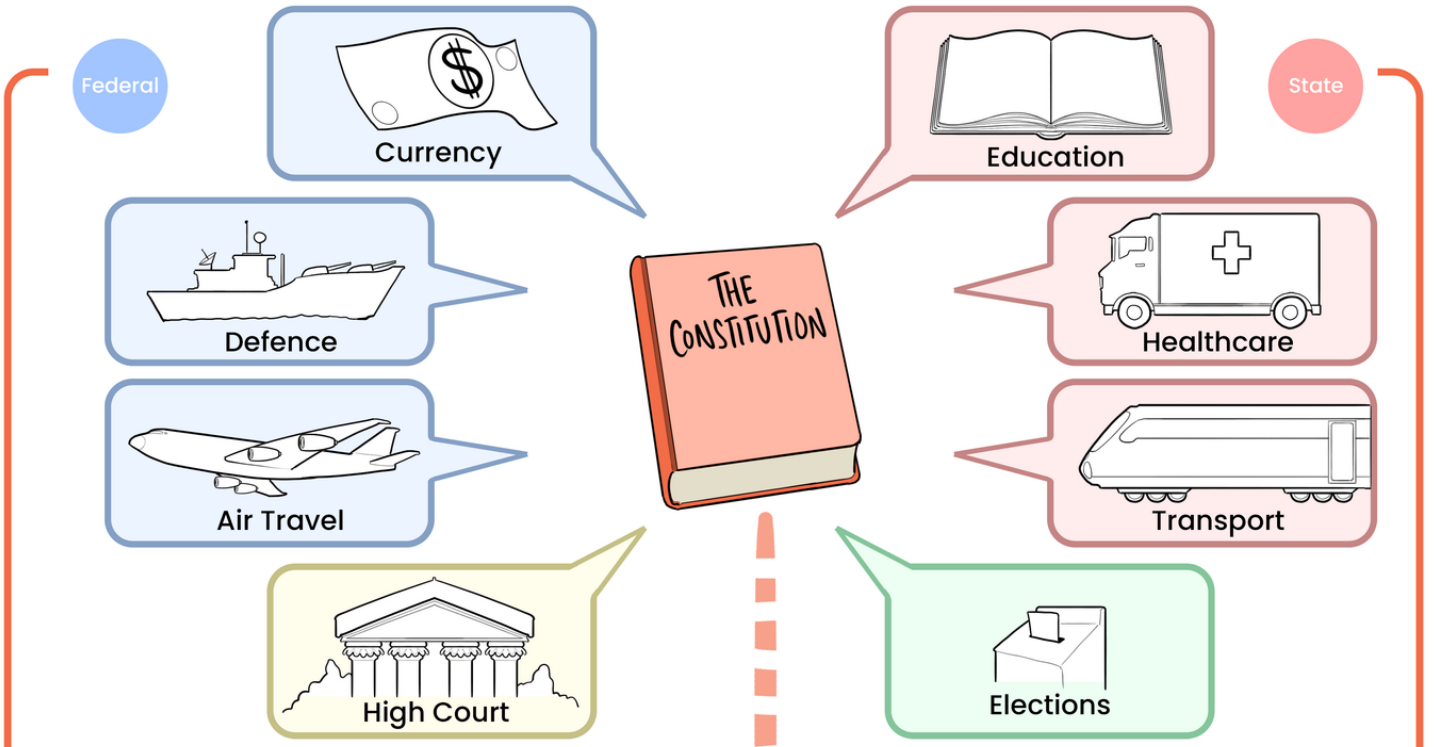
Why would we consider changing the Constitution?

The Constitution was written in the 1890s, and came into effect in 1901. But is a document that's design allow it to be changed.

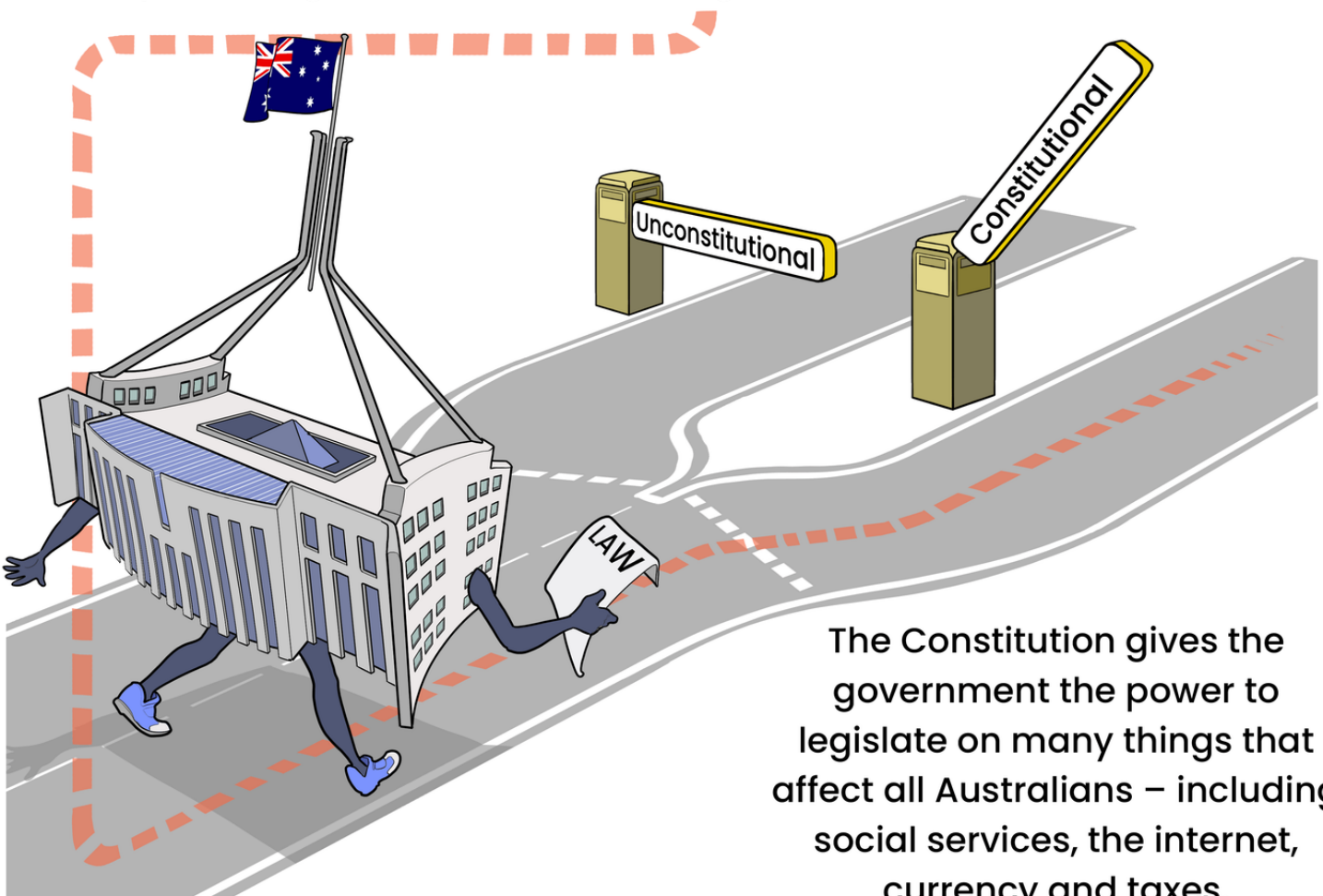


Occasionally, the Australian public are asked if they would like to change details in the Constitution to better reflect Australia's evolving needs and values.

Why should I care about the Constitution?



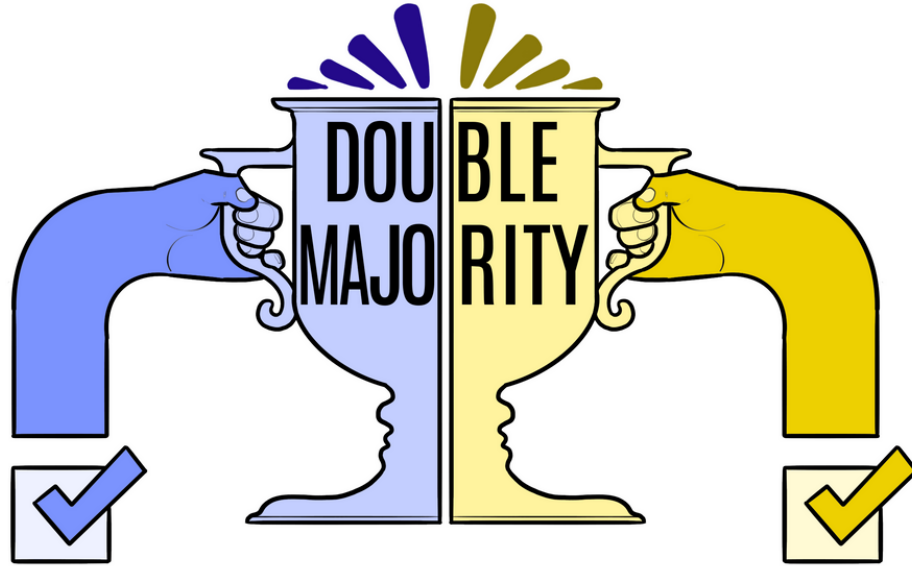
The Constitution is the document that 'governs the government'. It provides guidelines for what the government can and can't do.



The Constitution gives the government the power to legislate on many things that affect all Australians – including social services, the internet, currency and taxes.

Who decides the outcome of a Referendum?

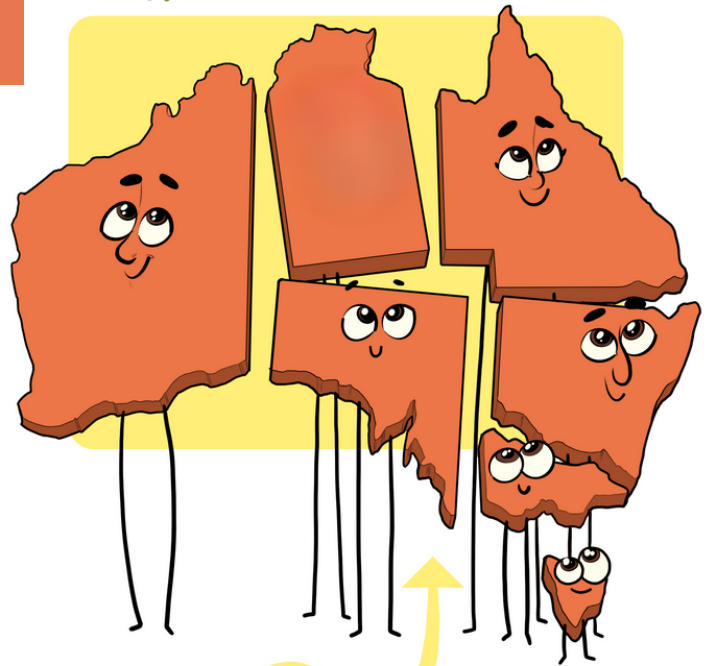
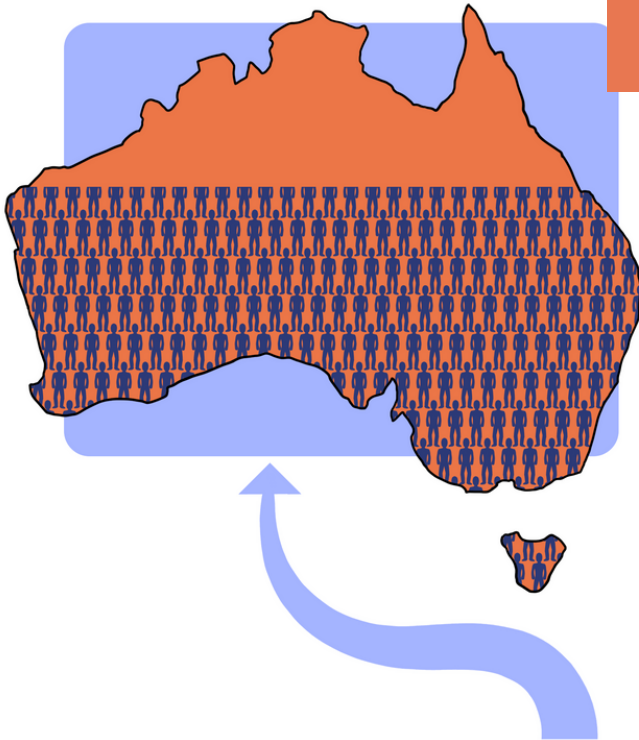
Voters decide on the outcome.
In order to make a change, a double-majority is required.



OVER 50%
OF POPULATION



AT LEAST 4/6 STATES

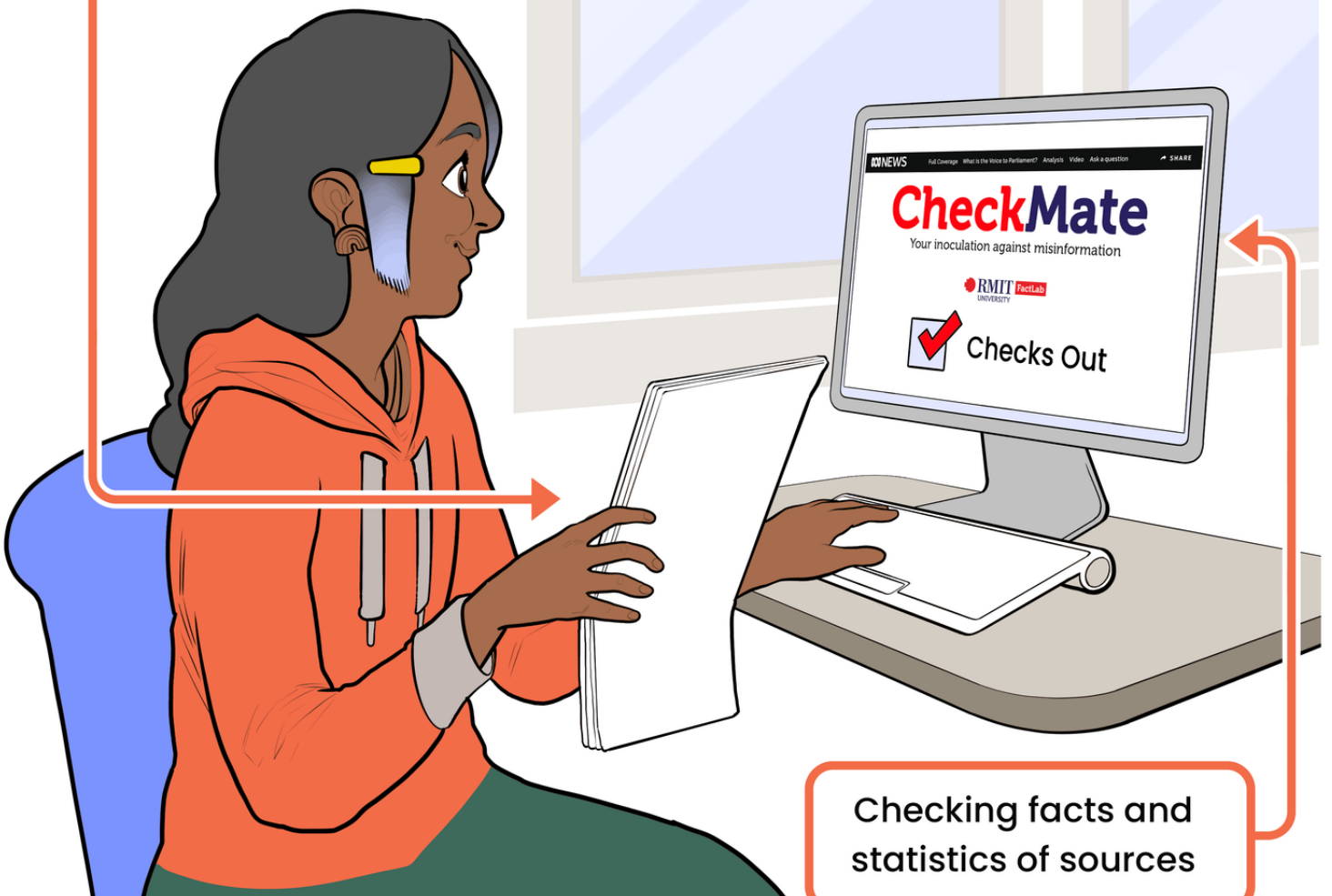


This means a majority of people in a majority of states must vote 'Yes' to a proposed change.

If there is no double-majority, the Constitution remains unchanged.

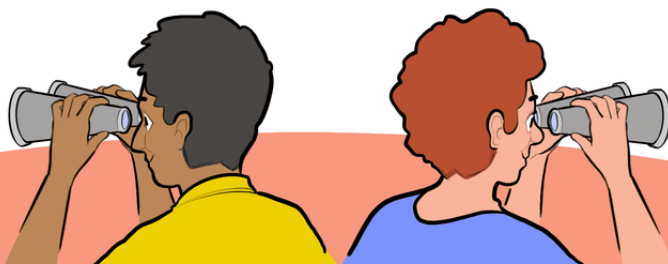
What do I need to do?

Be informed about
the constitution and
how referendums work



Checking facts and
statistics of sources

NO



YES

Explore a variety of perspectives