Name:

**Social Studies 11 Politics and Government**

**Elections**

**Reference:** Counterpoints Ch. 9 p. 312-321

**Big Idea:** How our elections work and why we have voter apathy

**Define the following (and give an example):**

electoral districts (ridings, constituencies)

voter apathy

nomination process

enumeration

party platform

polling stations

first-past-the –post system

proportional representation

single-transferable vote

**Questions**

1. Describe briefly how our voting system works (p. 313)

2. Why do you think we often have low voter turnout? (p. 313)

3. How do political parties choose the people they want to run elections? (p. 313-314)

4. Take note of the steps in a federal election at the bottom of p. 314 – these terms explain the process well and often show up on the provincial exam.

i)

ii)

iii)

iv)

v)

vi)

5. How are opinion polls used? What impact do they have on politicians? (p. 315)

**Trivia – see if you can figure these out:**

1. What is the age requirement for voting?

2. How frequently are elections required in federal parliaments? Provincial legislatures? Municipal levels?

3. How can people who choose not to vote, make those that do, more influential?

4. Why would a Prime Minister call an early election?