Brazil Election — Second Round (October 26, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

ℹ️ **What?** On October 25, 2026, Brazilians headed to the polls for a second round of voting to choose their president, as no candidate had secured more than half of the votes in the first round. 🗳️

👤 **Who?** Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva—known as “Lula”—the 81-year-old president of Brazil, who defeated 45-year-old Senator Flávio Bolsonaro, the son of a former president.

🌍 **Where?** In Brazil, the largest country in South America, where nearly 160 million people were eligible to vote.

🕰️ **When?** On Sunday, October 25, 2026, three weeks after a first round that was narrowly won by Flávio Bolsonaro.

❓ **Why is it important?** Lula has become the first Brazilian president to be elected for a fourth term, and the first to win a runoff election after trailing in the initial round.

🎯 **In this activity, your goal is to learn a bit more about the second round of this presidential election.**

OBJECTIVES

- Discover how Brazilians reacted to Lula’s victory through an AFP news report
- Identify what a Lula supporter and the defeated candidate said in a subtitled report
- Compare voter turnout in the first and second rounds of the election
- Calculate a turnout rate and the vote gap between Lula and Flávio Bolsonaro
- Learn about the right to vote at 16 in Brazil and other countries
- Develop arguments for and against the right to vote at 16

SUBJECTS

- **Social Studies**
  - Elections and democratic life
  - Voting rights and citizenship
  - International current events
- **Mathematics**
  - Subtraction with large numbers
  - Estimating a percentage
  - Reading a pie chart
- **English**
  - Understanding a subtitled report
  - Short answers
  - Developing arguments

COMPETENCIES

- Read and understand a subtitled news report
- Identify explicit information
- Read and interpret a data table
- Perform calculations with large numbers
- Interpret a pie chart
- Express and justify an opinion

DURATION

- Approximately 45 minutes

GETTING STARTED

- If the students did the activity on the first round, ask them what they remember
- Ask them why an election sometimes needs a second round
- Ask them who they think had the best chance of winning
- Ask: at what age can people vote where they live?

ATENA
LEARNING MADE RELEVANT

ADVENTURERS

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — Lula Wins! Viewing of an AFP news report with English subtitles, followed by short answers and multiple-choice questions.

Q1 — She was very shaken: she didn’t believe they could win.
Q2 — Because they fought very hard and everyone went out to vote.
Q3 — Meta. (Lula’s team accused the owner of Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp of hurting his campaign; Meta denied it.)
Q4 — Call for the election to be annulled.

STEP 2 — The Election Results. Reading the official results table for both rounds and pie charts, followed by calculations with large numbers.

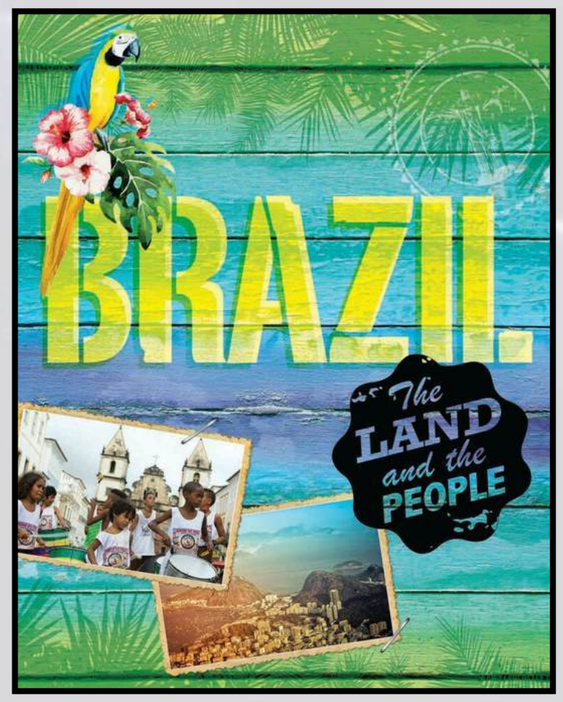
Q5 — Yes: 128,236,074 − 125,275,835 = 2,960,239 more people.
Q6 — 81% (128,236,074 ÷ 158,745,079 ≈ 80.8%).
Q7 — D (Lula 51.8%, Flávio Bolsonaro 48.2%).
Q8 — 64,256,232 − 59,826,041 = 4,430,191 votes.

STEP 3 — Voting at 16. Reflection on the right to vote at 16 and writing arguments for and against.

Q9 — Open answer. E.g., today’s decisions affect young people’s future; voting early builds the habit of voting.
Q10 — Open answer. E.g., some young people don’t follow the news yet; they may be influenced by their parents or friends.
Q11 — Open answer (yes or no, with a reason).

WRAPPING UP

- Hold a group discussion about what the students learned
- Organize a short class debate: for or against the right to vote at 16?
- Discuss: why is it important for candidates to accept the results of an election?
- Make a connection between mathematics and current events

FURTHER EXPLORATION

📖 Susie Brooks. *Brazil: The Land and the People*. Hachette Children’s Group