Designing a Ballot

TOPIC: DEMOCRACY

The jury in the law courts would decide whether the person on trial was innocent or guilty.



Each juror had two ballots. One ballot had a hub with solid ends, and the hub of the other ballot was hollow.

Each juror would hold one of each type of ballot in his hands with the thumb and forefinger covering the ends of the hubs. This was so that no-one could see how he was going to vote.

He would put one ballot in the ballot box and discard the other. If the juror chose the ballot with the solid hub, he was saying that he thought the person on trial was innocent.

If he chose the ballot with the hollow hub, he thought they were guilty.



This is a ballot box found in the Athenian Agora – the main market place in Athens. You can see the ballots inside it.

