

## *Voting* Percentage

It was late in October just before Halloween. Tommy's teacher had a special assignment for everyone in class. She said every student had to pick a candidate from the upcoming election and figure out how many votes they received from the total number of votes cast. Tommy had no idea about voting; after all, he was *only* in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. So that evening Tommy asked his dad about voting for the right person in an election. His dad said that he always picked the candidate that shared his values. If he picked that person then it would be better for the community because he could trust the person to do what is right for the people. He reminded Tommy what the Constitution says a government *of the people, by the people, and for the people*. Tommy finally realized what that meant. We choose the types of people we want spending our tax money and making laws. So, it was important to choose (vote) the person with the best character to lead the people.



Tommy was excited to watch the election with his parents that first Tuesday in November. Tommy had picked Mr. Robinson for governor as his assignment. Mr. Robinson won the election with 53% of the vote. Dad said that he was a good candidate to trust because he was a businessman and many years ago he had helped pay for a playground for needy children in the neighborhood. Besides, the other guy was caught cheating on his taxes.

***If there were 123,275 total votes, how many did Mr. Robinson get?***

$$123,275 \times .53 \text{ (53\%)} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

How many did the other person get?

$$123,275 \times .47 \text{ (47\%)} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$



***If there were 276,411 total votes, how many did Mr. Robinson get?***

$$276,411 \times .53 \text{ (53\%)} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

How many did the tax cheater get?

$$276,411 \times .47 \text{ (47\%)} = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

