

# Shock as Trump declares early victory - The Day

[theday.co.uk/shock-as-trump-declares-early-victory-26](https://theday.co.uk/shock-as-trump-declares-early-victory-26) November 2024

## Shock as Trump declares early victory



*Historic: Trump achieves four "firsts" today. He is the first president in over 100 years to return to office after losing. He is the oldest ever elected president; the first to be a convicted criminal and the first to face impeachment twice.*

**Will this election revive democracy? As dawn breaks, the US — and the world — is staring down the barrel of a second Trump term in office. Nobody knows what to expect.**

### What's happening?

And so here it is: the day America has been awaiting for four years with bated breath. The final act, either of Donald Trump's career, or perhaps of American **democracy** itself.

This morning, it is Trump who seems to have triumphed, leaving America's democratic future hanging in the balance.

The two candidates went into the election almost neck and neck in the polls. But it seems they were underestimating Trump for a third electoral cycle, as key battleground states that had deserted him for Biden in 2020 came back into the Republican fold.

### Find out more

Before the election, the Democrats were certain they were benefiting from a wave of support from white women. Women of colour vote in overwhelming numbers for the Democrats at every election, but white women generally split more or less evenly between the parties.

### Some people say

*"There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy*

This time, however, outraged by Republicans' attacks on abortion rights in recent years, they were expected to come out in massive numbers for Harris.

We will know in the coming days whether or not this happened, but for now it seems clear any gain in support among white women was cancelled out by the desertion of other important voters from the Democratic coalition.

### Will this election revive democracy?

#### Some say

Yes! Trump's victory can only make Americans who oppose him more concerned for the state of US democracy.

#### Others think

No! The election has proved Americans care less about democracy than they do inflation and immigration.

### Six steps to discovery

#### 1. Connect

**How do you feel about this story?** - What do you think about this result? Do you feel optimistic or pessimistic?

#### 2. Wonder

**What questions do you have?** - For example: Should the whole world be allowed to vote in US elections? Will

*means that my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge."*

**Isaac Asimov (1920 – 1992), American writer**

*What do you think?*

## **Glossary**

**Democracy** - A system of government based on the idea of rule by the people.

democracy survive the 21st Century?

### **3. Investigate**

**What are the facts?** - Many articles, like the one above, make claims about how people belonging to particular genders or ethnic groups vote. How do you think they work this out?

### **4. Construct**

**What is your point of view?** - You are a top adviser to Kamala Harris. She wants suggestions for restoring unity to America. What do you propose?

### **5. Express**

**What do others believe?** - Pick one member of your class to represent Kamala Harris and one to represent Donald Trump. Split into two groups: each one should help one candidate to draft their post-election speech.

### **6. Reflect**

**What might happen next?** - It is November 2028. What has happened since the 2024 election result? Is the US still standing? Write a newspaper article explaining what is happening and why.