

example

3 **voters** (they're people)

5 choices (or alternatives, or "policies")
(they're **mutually exclusive**)

	voter #1	voter #2	voter #3
first choice	w	x	z
second choice	z	z	y
third choice	x	y	w
fourth choice	y	w	x
fifth choice	v	v	v

people's rankings

I will **always** assume that people have “well-behaved” rankings over the choices

e.g. person #2 likes **x** best, and **z** 2nd-best, and so on

so in a **pairwise** vote between choices **z** and **w**, person #2 will vote for **z**

(temporary) assumption : people vote **sincerely** ; if you like **z** better than **w**, then you'll vote for **z**

(permanent) assumption : each person's ranking is **transitive** ; since person #2 likes **x** better than **z**, and he likes **z** better than **w**, therefore he must (always) like **x** better than **w**