

## **Politics**

**Voters want a leader to have definition,  
yes, but mostly in the negative.  
I won't raise the basic rate of income tax.  
I won't borrow to spend.  
I won't reopen Brexit.  
Beyond that,  
politicians should view policy detail as  
some football coaches view  
possession of the ball:  
a liability, a chance to make a mistake.  
A "positive vision"  
is not what clinches elections.  
It is the absence of a scary one.**

**Janan Ganesh,  
Financial Times, February 21, 2023**