**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Per.\_\_\_\_**

**Chapters 10, 11 & 12**

**Political Parties, Voting & Elections**

**Political Parties**

**I. Development of American Political Parties**

* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is group of citizens (voters) with similar views on public issues who work to put their ideas into effect through government action and who band together to elect candidates.
* Parties pick \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who agree with their beliefs and try to persuade voters to support their candidates who are running for office.
* The United States today has a *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* system, which means that we have *\_\_\_\_* **MAIN** political parties.
* Generally, parties are often labeled as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, depending on their views.
* Parties fall somewhere on the ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** (a range referring to differences in political views).
* Most people fall somewhere in the middle and are known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They generally lean toward one side or the other.

**Left Moderate Right**

**“Liberal”  Republican_Logo.jpg “Conservative”**

**II. Today’s Major Parties**

* A basic difference between the major parties is their belief in how much the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ should be involved in the lives of Americans.
  + **Democratic Party** 
    - Democrats are generally said to be more ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***.
    - They favor more government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that offer services in housing, education, healthcare, and economics.
    - These programs would be funded through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + **Republican Party**
    - Republicans are generally said to be more ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***.
    - Republicanstend to believe that they can help the nation’s ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** grow by reducing the amount of taxes that people have to pay.
    - They favor ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** government regulation of the economy.
    - They are opposed to ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** taxes.

**III. Third Parties**

* Although they sometimes challenge the two major parties, a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has never won a Presidential election and has rarely won any other major elections.
* Third Parties, however, can affect the outcome of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and may influence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Third Parties rarely win major elections because of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tradition.
  + For example, while the names of Republican and Democratic candidates are automatically placed on the ballot, Third-Party candidates must obtain a large number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to get on the ballot.
* The ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** Partysupports the rights of the workers and economic equality.
* The ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** Partysupports government ownership/allocation of resources.
* The ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** Party would like to increase individual freedoms by cutting the size of the U.S. government.

**IV. Party Platforms**

* To know where a party stands on the major issues, *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* can look at the party’s platform.
* A *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* is a series of statements expressing the party’s principles, beliefs, and positions on issues.
* Each individual part of a platform is called a *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Platform (Overall Party Concerns) | Democratic Platform | Republican Platform |
| Plank 1  (Specific Issue) | United States Economy | Wants the federal government to place regulations on businesses to influence economic growth | Wants to use \_\_\_\_\_\_ relief to grow the economy and create jobs |
| Plank 2  (Specific Issue) | Education | Wants to raise standards in K-12 schools and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ financial aid for secondary education. | Wants to increase access to charter schools, and promote accountability for students and parents |
| Plank 3  (Specific Issue) | Health Care | Mandated healthcare for all citizens | Says mandated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is unconstitutional.  Supports Medicare. |
| Plank 4  (Specific Issue) | Energy | Supports industry of creating green energy | Wants America to resume off-shore \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to boost the economy and lower energy costs. |

**Voting**

1. **The Importance of Voting**
   * Voting is a major civic \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*.
   * Voting allows citizens to :
     + Choose their government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     + Voice their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on past performances of public officials
     + Express their opinion on public \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **Voter Registration**
   * You must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to vote before you can take part in an election in most states. (Exception – North Dakota)
   * In order to register in the state of Florida you must:
     + Be a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the United States
     + Be a legal resident of both the State of Florida and of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in which you are registering
     + Be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years old (you may pre-register if you are 17)
     + Be mentally capable of making decisions
     + Not have been convicted of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (unless you’ve had your civil rights restored)
     + Register at least \_\_\_\_\_ days before the election takes place
3. **Steps in Voting**
4. On Election Day, voters go to the polling placein their *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*
5. When you arrive you will go through a series of checks to confirm your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and confirm you are registered to vote.
6. Next you will receive a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or list of candidates on which you cast your vote.
7. You will then go to the voting booth to cast your ballot.
8. After the polls are closed, election workers send the ballots and the results – called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to the election board.
9. The board then sends the returns to the state canvassing authority who then certifies the election of the winner.

**Elections**

1. **Primary Elections** 
   * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ elections** occur first and help narrow the field of candidates.
     + **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ primary** – an election in which voters need not declare their party preference
     + **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ primary** – only declared members of a party are allowed to vote for that party’s nominees
2. **General Elections**
   * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ election** – voters choose their leaders for various offices such as president, Congress members, and state and local positions.
     + General elections always take place in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
     + Presidential elections occur every \_\_\_\_\_\_ years in even numbered years.
     + In all races except the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ race, the candidate who wins the majority of the votes is elected into the office.

\*\*Elections are held at three levels: ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.***

\*\* States oversee their own elections!

1. **Presidential Election**
   * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ –** theprocess in which political parties select and offer candidates for public office
     + Presidential hopefuls start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a year or more before the election.
     + Now, so much campaigning goes on during the primary elections that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are used to “kick off” the campaign and rally party members.
   * **Campaign –** the process in which the candidates are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for public office using media, debates, and speeches.
     + Candidates travel to different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to give speeches, meet with state and local leaders and face their opponents in debates.
   * **The Electoral College** – the process by which a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ candidate is elected to office.
     + Presidents are not chosen by direct \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_vote, but by the Electoral College.
     + The number of electors per state = the number of Senators + the number of Representatives for that state. (Florida currently has \_\_\_\_ electors – 27 House members + 2 Senators)
     + The candidate who receives the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the electoral votes wins the election (270 or more of the 538 electoral votes).
   * ***Bush v. Gore* (2000)**
     + Your ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** does count!
     + In the 2000 election Al Gore had ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** more votes than George Bush but still lost.
     + George Bush had more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_votes and won the election 271-266.
     + The Supreme Court ruled that using different standards for counting votes in different counties ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** the Constitution.

**Chapter 12 - Influencing Government**

There are three major groups that influence our government: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **Individuals:**
   * **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** influence government by:
     + Contributing to or working on ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     + Running for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in elections
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the government for change
2. **Interest Groups:**
   * An **interest group** is an organized group of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who share a point of view about an issue.(Interest groups are not a part of the government!)
   * **Types of Interest Groups:**
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ interest groups try to influence government policies that affect their industry or profession. (Ex- American Farm Bureau Federation)
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ interest groupsfocus on a specific issue or cause. (Ex-NAACP, NRA)
     + ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** promote the interests of the general public. (Ex – National Wildlife Federation)
   * Interest groups influence government by:
     + Participating in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Activities
       - Interest groups often supply workers/*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* to election campaigns.
       - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (PACs) – are organizations set up by interest groups primarily to collect money to support favored candidates
     + Bringing Cases to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
       - Interest Groups influence public policy by bringing cases to court to test the *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*  of laws.
     + Lobbying Lawmakers
       - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_–paid representatives of interest groups who contact lawmakers or other government officials directly to influence their policy making
         1. Lobbyists might argue for/against ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.***
         2. Government officials often rely on ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** for information/opinions.
         3. Lobbyists sometimes help ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** bills
3. **The Media:**
   * *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* – forms of communication that transmit information to large numbers of people
     + There are two types of media:
       - ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*media**– newspapers, magazines, newsletters, books
       - ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* media**– radio, television, and the Internet (social networking, Facebook, Twitter)
   * The Media influences government by:
     + Shaping Public Opinion
       - Individuals and groups use the media to shape \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or the total of the opinions held concerning a particular issue.
       - Ideas that are spread to influence people are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
     + Impacting Elections
       - Media is used by candidates for *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*
       - Various groups/individuals provide campaign *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* (news/updates) via television, newspapers, radio, internet, etc.
     + Providing a Medium for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to:
       - Hold \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conferences
       - Stage media events
       - Be interviewed by people in the media
       - Leak \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to test public reaction
     + Serve as a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
       - Journalists play an important role in exposing government \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and waste.
       - Media and National Security – there are tensions regarding American citizens’ right to know and the need for the government to protect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Political \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the media might or might not be obvious. Responsible citizens must:

- Think critically about what they see, hear, and read in the media, as information can be

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*or *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

- Be able to distinguish between *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* and *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*.

1. **Propaganda**
   * \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - an attempt to promote a particular person or idea
   * Types of Propaganda often found in print and electronic media:
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_– “I’m voting for Candidate A and so should you.”
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – “Candidate A has the best record on the environment.”
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – “Candidate A is a dangerous extremist!”
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – “Candidate A is the one who will bring us peace and prosperity.”
     + Transfer Symbols - using something like the flag to represent the idea of patriotism
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – “My parents were ordinary, hardworking people….”
     + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – “Polls show our candidate is pulling ahead”