

Voting

Key Vocabulary—Voting

amendment: a change or addition to the U.S. Constitution

candidate: a person who works to be elected to a political position

citizen: a person who legally belongs to a country and has the rights and protection of that country

create: to make something new

demand: to strongly request or order

election: an event when people choose a member of government by voting

federal: part of the central U.S. government, not state or local governments

illegal: not allowed by the law

minimum: smallest level or amount possible

organize: to plan or arrange

poll taxes: money that some people had to pay to vote in an election

represent: to make decisions for another person or group of people

right: something you are morally or legally allowed to do

serve: to work for a certain period of time, usually in political office or in the military

speech: an expression of ideas and opinions that is made by someone who is speaking in front of a group of people

term: the period of time someone serves in a political office

Directions: As you watch the video, write down the answers to the questions below. Eventually you'll have your answers for all 100 civics questions.

Voting Age

How old do citizens have to be to vote for President? USCIS #54

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Amendments about Voting

There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote. Describe one of them. USCIS #48

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Susan B. Anthony

What did Susan B. Anthony do? USCIS #77

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Political Parties

What are the two major political parties in the United States? USCIS #45

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Presidential Elections

We elect a President for how many years? USCIS #26

.....

Presidential Election Month

In what month do we vote for President? USCIS #27

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The President's Political Party

What is the political party of the President now? USCIS #46

.....

True or False?—Voting

Read each sentence and decide if it is true or false.

If the sentence is false, rewrite the sentence using the correct words.

1. We elect a President for five years.

True

False

2. The Democratic and Republican parties are the two major political parties in the United States.

True

False

3. We vote for President in January.

True

False

4. One of the amendments about voting is that every citizen must vote in a federal election.

True

False

5. To vote for President, citizens must be at least 18 years old.

True

False

6. Susan B. Anthony fought for freedom of religion.

True

False

G

Work in pairs. Each of you studies the information about a different one of the two major political parties. Summarize your information for your partner.

1.



The Democratic Party is the oldest party in the United States. In 1829, Andrew Jackson became the first Democratic President. Since that time, the issues of the nation and the ideas of the party have changed. Both the major parties have liberal and conservative members, but in general people consider the Democrats today more liberal than the Republicans. Democrats often want the government to establish social programs for people in need, such as the poor, the unemployed, and the elderly. They usually say they believe in equal rights for women and minorities and they oppose nuclear weapons and too much military spending. The symbol of the Democratic Party (from political cartoons) is the donkey.

2.



The Republican Party, sometimes called the G.O.P. (the Grand Old Party), began in 1854 over the issue of slavery. Republicans oppose slavery. The first Republican candidate to become President was Abraham Lincoln. After the Civil War, Republicans got interested in farm, land, and business issues. In general, Republicans vote more conservatively than Democrats. They want government to support big business but not to control the lives of citizens. They often oppose government spending for social programs but support military spending. The party symbol is the elephant.

H

Which party is each sentence about? Write R for the Republican and D for the Democratic.

1. ___ It is the oldest political party in the United States.
2. ___ It is sometimes called the G.O.P.
3. ___ Its first President was Abraham Lincoln.
4. ___ Its first President was Andrew Jackson.
5. ___ It is generally more liberal than the other party.
6. ___ Its members usually prefer to spend tax money for military purposes rather than for social programs.
7. ___ Its members do not want the government to control the lives of individuals.
8. ___ The party symbol is the donkey.

C**Answer the questions with information from these ballot parts.****DEMOCRATIC
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE Vote for One	AL GORE	Democratic	2 → ○
	PAUL SIMON	Democratic	3 → ○
	JESSE JACKSON	Democratic	4 → ○
	LYNDON LAROUCHE	Democratic	5 → ○
	MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS	Democratic	6 → ●

1. What kind of election (primary or general) was this ballot for? _____
For which party? _____
2. Who did the voter vote for? _____

Vote for One Party	MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS, for President LLOYD BENTSEN, for Vice President	Democratic	2 → ○
	RON PAUL, for President ANDRE V. MARROU, for Vice President	Libertarian	4 → ○
	LENORA B. FULANI, for President B. KWAKU DUREN, for Vice President	Independent	6 → ○
	JAMES C. GRIFFIN, for President CHARLES J. MORSA, for Vice President	American Independent	8 → ○
	GEORGE BUSH, for President DAN QUAYLE, for Vice President	Republican	10 → ○

3. What offices were these candidates running for? _____

4. How many political parties had candidates on the ballot? _____
5. Who was the Democratic candidate for President? _____
For Vice President? _____
6. What party did Ron Paul and Andre V. Marrou belong to? _____
7. What year was this election? _____ Who won? _____