

Civics and Economics: Unit 3

Politics and Elections

Vocabulary to Know: " bipartisan " caucus " closed primary " direct primary " interest groups " lobbyist " multi-party system* " nonpartisan " one-party system* " open primary " plank " platform " political action committee (PAC) " political machine " political party " pollster " precinct " propaganda " public opinion " third party " two-party system " ward " absentee ballot " apathy " ballot " electorate " exit poll " majority - plurality " referendum " returns "

Civics Today: Chapters 9, 10, and 11

Primary Sources: Washington's Farewell Address,

1. Analyze the history, emergence, and current state of America's two party system, and be sure to identify the current parties and their beliefs.
2. Explain how laws and elections are influenced by political parties, interest groups, lobbyists, the media, and public opinion.
3. Evaluate the growth of voting rights in America, using the Constitution, applicable laws, and the qualifications and procedures to voting. Be sure to include ways that voting rights have grown and ways voting rights can be taken away in America.
4. Analyze the process of being elected to public office in America. Also, explain how the American people can bypass the branches of government and pass laws through elections.
5. Compare America's political party system to systems found in other democracies around the world, explaining the advantages and disadvantages of each system.