**Unit 5 Topic 5.8 Electing President Chpt. AMSCO Chpt 18 pg. 587-595**

Explain how the different processes work in a U.S. presidential election.

Explain how the Electoral College facilitates and/or impedes democracy.

**WHAT DOES T HE CONSTITUTION SAY ABOUT WHO CAN BE PRESIDENT?**

1. N\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ born citizen
2. Minimum age of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. U.S. r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_ years.

**STEP 1: PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES**

**Primary Season and competing for delegates**

**HOW TO BECOME THE PARTY NOMINEE**

**Presidential Incumbency Advantage**

In 2020 there was one Republican challenger to Pres. Trump

Presidents have incumbency advantage.

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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The nomination game is an e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ contest. The goal is to win a majority of d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’ support at the national party c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Who were the eventual winners of each party for the 2020 Presidential Election?

* The primary season includes both state p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and state c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The main feature of a presidential primary is that the v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a particular s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are deciding which “d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” they will send to the national party convention
	+ Delegates may be selected on a p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ basis or
	+ Delegates maybe selected on a “w\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-a\_\_\_\_\_” basis
	+ S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- Used by the D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- Party l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and party o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Reps, Senators, Governors) and others
		- Not pledged (can vote for whoever they want)
		- Designed to pick c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with best chance to win the g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ election

During the primary season (February – June 2016), the candidates are c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_all over the country to secure enough d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ votes to win the party’s n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Some candidates will s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_their campaigns after p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ performances in the early stages.

* Most states hold a p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, in which voters from every p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ party cast s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ballots for the best c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that will r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their party in the g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ election
* Used by more than t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-fourths of the states
* More power to the people because of increased use of p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (more d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ form of democracy)
	+ Political p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ control over n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ More m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is spent on elections to win peoples’ votes
* **Importance of the N\_\_\_\_\_ H\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Primary: 1st state to hold primary each election year**
* “S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday” – Date in which m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ southern states hold their p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ early in the election season.
* “Front-Loading” trend – the b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of primaries e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in an e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ y\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* “Front-Loading” trend – Primaries are held earlier in the year for s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be more r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* This is where voters can cast their vote to determine who will represent each p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

It gives candidates with name r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a distinct advantage, because the candidates need to get their messages across in so many states so early, which is expensive.

If a candidate is less successful in a primary than the pundits expect, his or her sources of money will likely dry up and support will fade. But the opposite is also true: A candidate who does surprisingly well can very quickly move from d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to front-runner in the eyes of the public.

**In some states, a caucus is held to select the best candidate from each party through discussions and open votes.**

* A caucus is a m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ members and supporters of various c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; it centers on the p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ organization
* The process starts at l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ meetings open to all p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ members, who take positions on candidates and issues and elect d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to represent their views at the next level; this process r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until national nominating convention delegates are chosen
* Importance of Iowa Caucuses – f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in nation (even b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ New Hampshire primary)
* Local Caucuses >> District Convention >> State Convention >> National Convention. Each level selects d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to attend higher level.

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fade. But the opposite is also true: A candidate who does surprisingly well can very quickly move from d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to

front-runner in the eyes of the public.

**In horse racing, a "dark horse" is a horse that wins a race when no one expects it to.**

**Which states hold caucuses? Alaska, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, North Dakota, Wyoming and I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**HOW TO BECOME PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE**

Have you ever been with a large group of people trying to order a pizza? The process usually creates a difficult situation, as individuals want very different things. Imagine your teacher has just told you that he is going to order a pizza for your entire class; however, your teacher presents your class with only two options for how you will go about choosing what you want on your pizza.

**#1** - You have the choice between a pizza with cheese, pepperoni or pineapple. There is no discussion on this matter, just a simple vote. Each member of the class will cast one vote.

or

**#2** - You have the opportunity to discuss with your classmates what toppings you would choose for the pizzas and come to some sort of agreement on your own.

**Which option would you choose, the first or second? Why? What are the advantages for each? Disadvantages?**

**What is the difference between a primary and a caucus?**

**What are the advantages and disadvantages to each?**

***STATE PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES – 2016 EDITION***

**Remember, during the primaries and caucuses, it’s (D) vs. (D) and (R) vs. (R). Candidates are trying to win as many delegate votes as possible.**

**Started with Iowa on February 3, 2020**

**California voted on March 3, 2020**

* Super Tuesday
* 14 states voted that day

Primary voting ended in August (usually ends in June)

**Who are the “delegates” and how many votes does each state get?**

***State Primaries and Caucuses***

***2016 EDITION – Democratic and Republican Delegates***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **For the Democratic Party** | **For the Republican Party** |
| **3,979 delegate votes total****1,991 delegate votes needed to become party nominee** | **A simple majority 2,550 delegates votes total****1,276 delegate votes needed to become party nominee** |
| **Graphical user interface  Description automatically generated** |  |

* **What is the difference between a primary and caucus?**
* **Which one is better for the “democratic process”?**

**STEP 2: NATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

**Officially Become the Party Nominee**

**Now it’s time to officially decide who will be the presidential and vice-presidential candidate for each party.**

**HOW TO BECOME PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE**

Each party holds a n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ convention. The delegates v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to OFFICIALLY SELECT a final presidential nominee. The candidate that wins the m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the overall delegate vote is the party’s nominee.



**Republican nominee: Donald Trump**

**Democratic nominee: Joe Biden**

At the convention, the presidential candidate announces a running mate (vice presidential candidate).

The presidential candidate chooses a running mate who will “b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the ticket”. That is someone who can strengthen his chance of being e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by virtue of certain ideological, geographic, ethnic, gender or other characteristics.

**What does it mean when the presidential candidate chooses a vice president to help “balance the ticket”?**

**Why did Joe Biden choose Kamala Harris as his VP?**

**Why did Donald Trump choose Tim Kaine as her VP?**

**How does a candidate become the official nominee for a political party? (In other words, what happens at the National Convention?)**

**STEP 3: GENERAL ELECTION**

 The people vote for the e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in November. We don’t v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ directly for the president or vice president.

The presidential candidate’s campaign throughout the country to win the support of the general p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Much of the candidates’ time, particularly in the later stages of the campaign, will be spent in the contentious “S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” states.

The presidential debates are generally considered the last big opportunity to move voters before the election.

They offer rare moments for Americans to do some head-to-head comparison shopping between two candidates on the same stage discussing the issues.

* C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cast their votes in N\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to select groups of e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who will represent their states in the electoral c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* These e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will meet in their s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and formally v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to elect the president and vice president in D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ votes are formally counted at a j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ session of C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on January 6, 2017. The P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ formally announces the result.

**ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATING SYSTEM**

**Pro:**

* Highly participatory: caucuses, primaries, conventions
* Highly representative
* Weeds out weaker candidates

**Con:**

* Low rates of turnout
* Too lengthy
* Does not test candidates for qualities they need as President. Too much emphasis on media game – horse race.
* Delegates at caucuses and conventions tend to be unrepresentative: more ideological, more activist, more educated, less moderate, much wealthier.
* Voters in primaries tend to be better educated and more affluent than those in general elections à more ideological

**FRQ Practice11**

Nominees for the presidency of the two major parties are chosen by delegates at national conventions. How these

delegates are chosen varies across states and between the political parties.

a. Define each of the following methods used by states to choose delegates to party conventions.

• Open primary

• Caucus

b. Republican Party rules permit winner-take-all primaries. Describe one consequence of this rule for the

Republican nomination process.

c. The Democratic Party has used superdelegates in the presidential nominating process since 1984. Explain

why the use of superdelegates increases the influence of party leaders in the Democratic nomination process.

d. Explain why a candidate’s strategy to win the nomination is often different from the strategy developed to

win the general election**.**

**FRQ Practice**

Use the cartoon and your knowledge of U.S. Government and Politics to answer parts A, B, and C.

A. Describe the viewpoint expressed in the cartoon.

B. Describe one criticism of front-loading in the nomination process.

C. Explain one way in which a candidate might benefit from front-loading.

**TOPIC 5.8 Electing a President The Electoral College**

Explain how the Electoral College facilitates and/or impedes democracy.

The winner-take-all allocation of votes per state (except Maine and Nebraska) under the setup of the Electoral College compared with the national popular vote for president raises questions about whether the Electoral College f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or i\_\_\_\_\_\_ democracy.

***QUESTION OF THE DAY***

Is the Electoral College an outdated model that needs to be scrapped or revamped, or is it fine just the way it is? Be ready to defend your position.

**RATIONALE FOR SUCH A SYSTEM AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

* Poor communication >> common people would lack essential i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Desire to have the nation’s elite select the President. Fear that **d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** might sway the common people (**m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**).
* A compromise by those who wanted direct election and those who wanted the Congress to elect the President
* The Electoral College also reflects the **federal** nature of the Constitution
	+ **Ensures that the states have a role in selecting the president**

**Elite Democracy-**

 **Demagogues** excite the p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the mob against the m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thoughtful customs of the society of society.

Demagoguery is an appeal to people that plays on their e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than their rational side. Demagoguery is m\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ approach often associated with dictators and sleazy politicians that appeals to the w\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nature of people.

**THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

In the Electoral College system, each state gets a certain number of electors based on its r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in C\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. These electors vote for the president and vice president.

* **Total of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Votes (435 House Reps + 100 Senators + 3 for District of Columbia)**

**GOOD THINGS ABOUT THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

1. Represents our f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system, with its emphasis on the states and their representatives.
2. Every s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to have a voice, including the small states. These states might be overlooked if the election was decided by the results of the popular vote.
3. Prevents s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by requiring a winning candidate to have support from throughout the country.
4. Contributed to political stability by promoting the t\_\_\_\_-party system. That system encourages the major parties to represent a w\_\_\_\_\_\_ range of interests.
5. May strengthen the power of organized interest g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, (p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ democracy) such as women voters or minority voters. These groups can play a powerful role in deciding the outcome of close elections.

**CRITICISMS OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

1. Concentration of campaigning in a few large, swing states to tip the

balance of the electoral college

1. The allocation of electoral votes in the winner-take-all system exaggerates the margin of victory
2. President can be elected with only a p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, rather than a majority, of popular votes, especially with presence of strong 3rd party candidates
3. Possibility of a “minority” President (1824, 1876, 1888, 2000, 2016)
4. “F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Electors” - no Federal law requires electors to vote the way they are “supposed” to vote
5. Small states proportionally over-represented; Small states ridiculously over-represented if election goes to the House (Wyoming would have same voting power as California)
6. I\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ development of t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ parties

**ALTERNATIVES TO THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

* D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Election: Everyone’s vote would be worth the same. Majority of popular vote wins.
* District System: Candidate who wins a congressional district wins that district’s electoral vote; Candidate who wins the overall state popular vote wins the two “Senate” electoral votes (Maine and Nebraska currently use this system)
* Proportional System: Candidate gets same % of electoral votes as popular votes
* Alternative Vote System: Method of election (also called instant runoff) in which voters rank candidates in order of preference. If any single candidate receives a majority of first-preference votes, that candidate is deemed elected. If no candidate clears this hurdle, the last-place candidate is eliminated, and that candidate’s second preferences are reapportioned to others and so on until a candidate clears the threshold of 50 percent of the vote plus one.
* Keep electoral votes but abolish the electors themselves

**Electoral College Argumentative Assignment Deconstruct**

The framers of the Constitution created the electoral college as the means of electing the president.

Take a position on whether the Constitution should be amended to abolish the electoral college and replace it with a direct popular vote.

Use at least one piece of evidence from one of the following foundational documents:

* **Article 5 of the United States Constitution**
* **B*rutus I***
* ***The Federalist* 10**

In your response you should do the following:

✓ Respond to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.

✓ Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of specific and relevant evidence.

     • One piece of evidence must come from one of the foundational documents listed above.

     • A second piece of evidence can come from any other foundational document not used as your first piece of evidence, or it may come from your knowledge of course concepts.

✓ Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim or thesis.

**Thesis/ Claim:**

**Rebuttal, refutation, or concession (circle the one you chose to write):**

**Article 5**

**Brutus I**

**Fed 10**

**Evidence:** Examples from history or gov Concepts learned in class