

Name _____



Directions: In each statement below, fill in the words that best complete the statement.

1. The two major U.S. political parties are the _____ and the _____.
2. To vote, a citizen needs to be at least _____ years old.
3. A political party can choose its candidates through a _____.
4. The president of the United States is elected through the _____.
5. Citizens who are campaigning door-to-door are involved in politics at the _____ level.
6. The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave _____ the right to vote.
7. _____ men gained the right to vote with the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
8. Voters can remove someone from office using the _____.
9. Voters can pass laws that legislatures won't consider with the _____.
10. The _____ ballot gives voters who will be away on Election Day a way to vote.
11. An alien can become a citizen through the process of _____.
12. Before voting, it is necessary to _____.
13. Citizens can take part in the political process by expressing their opinions, voting in elections, running for office, and _____ for candidates.
14. The place where citizens vote is called a _____ place.

Name _____

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★ VIDEO QUIZ ★
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Directions: Read the following statements, and circle whether they are true or false.

1. A citizen is anyone who lives in the United States.

True False

2. An alien can become a citizen through a process called naturalization

True False

3. The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution lowered the voting age to 18 years old.

True False

4. To be a senator, a person needs to be at least 25 years old, a citizen of the United States for nine years, and a resident of the state from which he or she was elected.

True False

5. It is not necessary to register in order to vote.

True False

6. If you are not old enough to vote, you can still participate in the political process, for example, by expressing your opinion to your elected officials or by campaigning for candidates.

True False

7. The two major U.S. political parties are the Whigs and the Copperheads.

True False

8. Women and African American men have always had the vote in the United States.

True False

9. An open primary is a way citizens can propose legislation.

True False

10. The Electoral College consists of the people who actually vote to elect the president of the United States.

True False

Name _____

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★ **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** ★
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1. Name some ways Americans can take part in the political life of our country.
2. How can people under the age of 18 take part in American political life?
3. What are some of the ways political candidates use to convince voters to elect them?
4. Why does our Constitution only let *citizens* vote?
5. What role do major and minor political parties play in the American political process?
6. Why should American citizens educate themselves about political issues, vote, and run for election?
7. Is a closed primary fair to voters who aren't members of a political party? Why or why not?
8. How do the techniques of initiative, referendum, and recall give average citizens political power?
9. What is the Electoral College, and how does it work?
10. How have the 15th Amendment, 19th Amendment, and 26th Amendment affected the number of voters?

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★ WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? ★
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Directions: Read over the following descriptions. Then answer the questions that follow.

1. Megan O'Hara is 16 years old. Can she vote? Why or why not?

2. Rich Henderson is going to be out of town during Election Day. Can he vote? How?

3. Nadia Rozinsky was not born in the United States. Can she vote? How?

4. Darryl Kim is a naturalized citizen. Can he vote? Why or why not?

5. Sarah Nordquist has not registered. Can she vote? Why or why not?

6. Henry Dobbler is not registered as a Republican party or a Democratic party member. Can he vote in an open primary? Why or why not?

7. Jennifer Rudkin wants to help in her neighbor's campaign for mayor, but she is 13 years old. Can she do it? Why or why not?

8. Ryan Santorini wants to propose a new law about limiting property taxes. Can he do it? How?

9. Corey Jones and a group of her friends are interested in starting a new political party. Can they do it? Why or why not?

10. Jordan Schneider is 22 years old, a citizen of the United States since birth, and has been a resident of the state of California for five years. He wants to be a congressman. Can he be a candidate? Why or why not?

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Directions: Read over the following list of terms. Then fill in the sentences below with the correct term. Not all terms will be used

citizen	19th Amendment	primary	closed primary
alien	referendum	initiative	open primary
26th Amendment	to register	polling places	absentee ballot
third parties	Democratic party	Republican party	recall
grass roots	Electoral College	15th Amendment	naturalization
local election	general election	national election	candidate

1. Anyone born in the United States is a _____, but someone born outside the United States, called an _____, can become a citizen through the process of _____.
2. The donkey is a symbol of the _____, and the elephant is a symbol of the _____. Citizens first need _____ before they can cast their vote in an election.
3. African American males gained the right to vote with the passage of the _____, and American women gained the right to vote with the passage of the _____.
4. The _____ lowered the voting age to 18.
5. Elections are traditionally held on a Tuesday at various public buildings called _____.
6. If a voter will be out of town on election day, he or she can vote by _____.
7. Whigs, Copperheads, and Populists were _____.
8. A _____ is an election in which voters choose a political party's _____ for an upcoming general election. In a _____ only that party's registered voters can participate, but in an _____ everyone can vote.
9. _____ is a method of passing laws that legislatures won't consider, and _____ is a method of removing someone from office.