



★ ***What Makes A Great Leader?*** ★

In order to be a political leader, a person must meet certain mandatory qualifications. To be president, for example, a person must be at least 35 years old and a natural-born citizen. Take a few minutes to think about the personal qualities, above and beyond mandatory qualifications, you think a good political leader should possess. List those qualities in box 1 below. Next, take a look at various ads in the classified section of the newspaper. Using those ads as a guide, write your own classified ad for a political position of your choice in box 2.

1

Qualities of an excellent political leader:

2

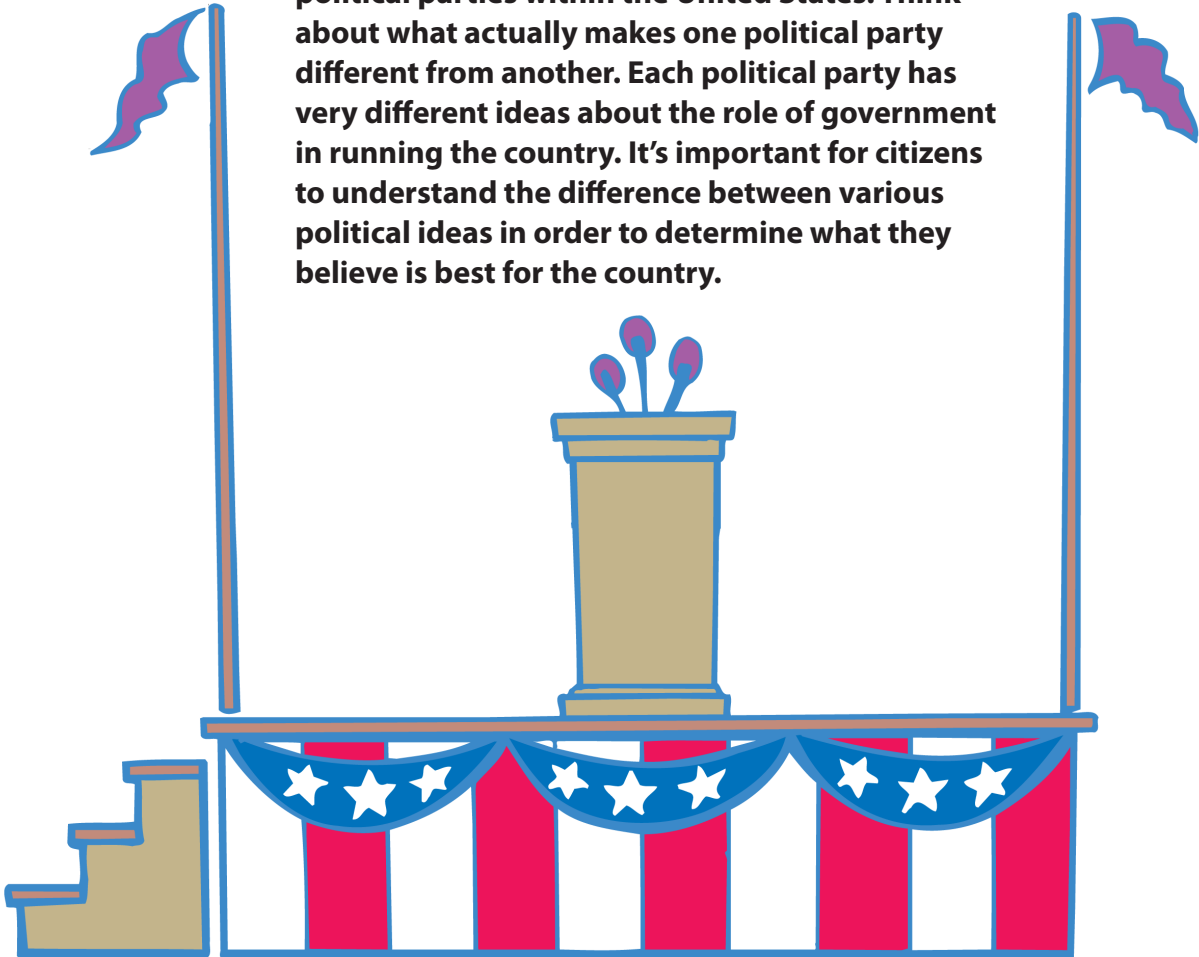
CLASSIFIED SECTION





★ *Political Ideologies* ★

Just as the rainbow spectrum contains different colors, there are a number of different ideologies on the political spectrum. A political ideology is a series of beliefs and ideas about what a government should and should not be able to do within a country. As you probably know, there are many political parties within the United States. Think about what actually makes one political party different from another. Each political party has very different ideas about the role of government in running the country. It's important for citizens to understand the difference between various political ideas in order to determine what they believe is best for the country.



Look in the newspaper for an article about a candidate running for office. Read the article and identify four things that candidate stands for. Write those things in the boxes below and highlight or underline specific evidence in the article.

1	
2	
3	
4	



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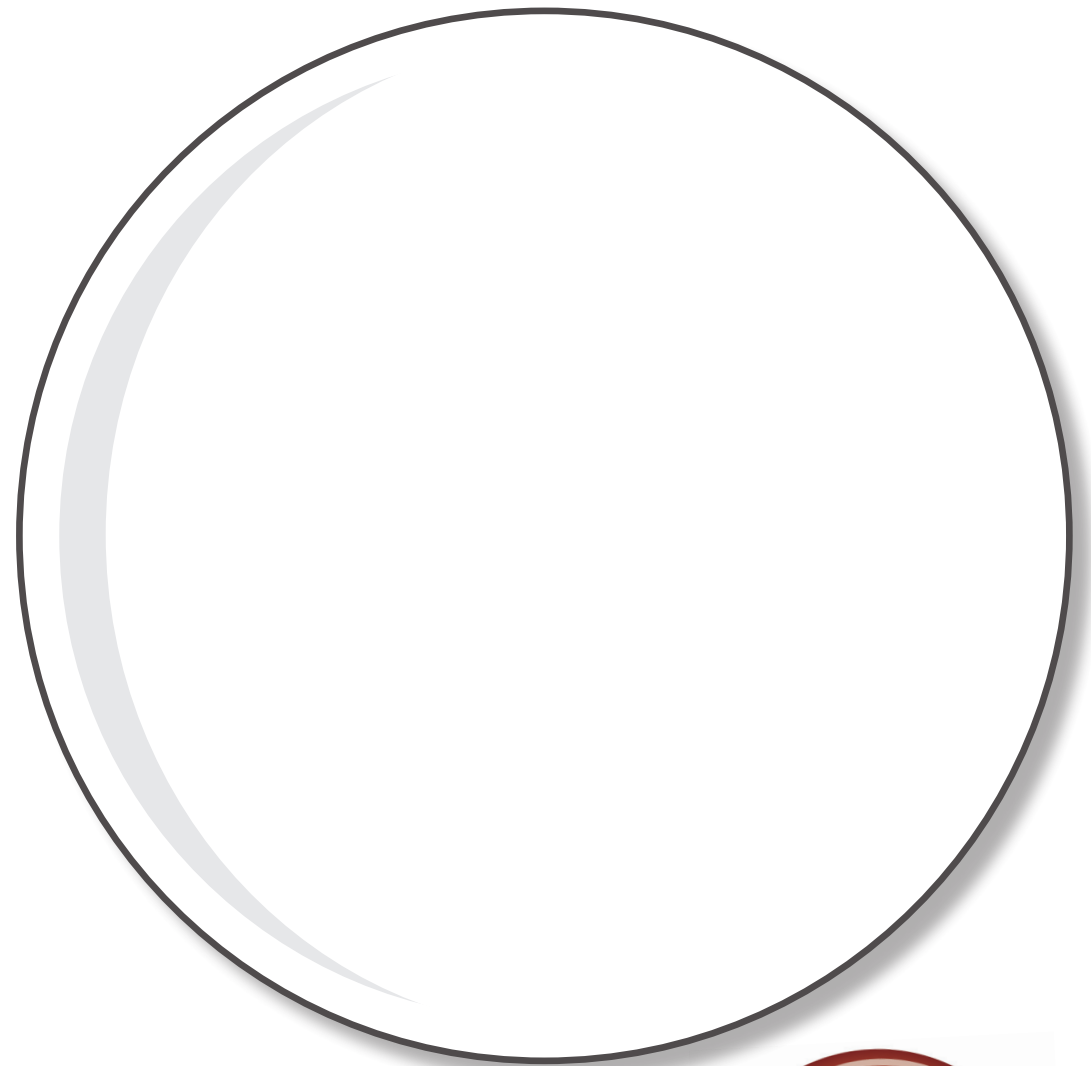


Political Campaigns

Throughout a campaign, candidates use many forms of communication to convey their political platform. A political platform is a series of positions on political issues that show the goals and principles of a candidate.

You may have seen campaign signs along the streets of your community, bumper stickers on cars, ads on TV, posts on Facebook that were part of a political campaign. You may have seen debates, speeches or interviews with the candidates as well.

Think about various campaign messages you've seen or heard. Which messages caught your attention? Which messages seemed to speak to you? **Then, use the blank circle to the right to create your own political campaign button.** You can base your button on a message you've seen, or create your own.



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After the Office (Do Parties Matter?)

There are many famous sayings that finish the joke, “Old politicians never die, they just...”

The truth is that most politicians complete some of their most significant work after leaving office.

Select three political leaders that have been out of office for a significant period of time – they may be presidents, senators, governors or city council members. Be sure to select a mixture of leaders that you both agree and disagree with.

Research each leader and examine the work they completed upon the completion of their term(s) in office.



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Political Leader’s Name and Previous Office	What type of work did he/she complete after office?	How did this work affect our nation? Did it benefit particular segments of society?	How did this work relate to the leader’s political affiliation? Did party affiliation affect the work he/she did after leaving office?