

Chapter 5 Political Parties

Notes:

Section 1: Parties and what they do

- a. “Winning isn’t everything; it’s the only thing.” Vince Lombardi

B. What is a party?

a. Political Party

- i. _____

- ii. Generally joined together on _____
pertaining to public policies and programs
 - 1. _____

- iii. U.S. major parties are more _____
than issue oriented

C. What do parties do?

- a. They are the major mechanisms behind the development of broad policy and leadership choices
 - i. _____
 - ii. They bring together _____
- b. Nominating Candidates
 - i. _____
- c. Informing and activating supporters
 - i. They campaign for their candidates and their positions
 - 1. _____

 - ii. _____
- d. Both parties try to shape positions that will attract as many voters as possible
 - i. Possibly offending as _____ as possible

- e. The Bonding Agent Function
 - i. Parties work to ensure that candidates are _____

- f. Governing
 - i. U.S. government primarily controlled by _____
 - ii. Much of the government business is done on the basis of _____
 - 1. _____

 - iii. allows separation of powers between legislative and executive branches
- g. Act as Watchdog
 - i. _____

Notes:

Section 2: The Two party system

D. Why a Two-Party System?

- a. U.S. has primarily a Two-Party System
 - i. _____
- b. There are minor parties
 - i. Political parties without wide voter support
- c. Multiple reasons for U.S. having two party system
 - i. The historical Basis
 - 1. _____ created two political groups
 - a. Federalist and Anti-Federalist
 - 2. Framers however did not like political parties
 - ii. The Force of Tradition
 - 1. _____

 - a. Tradition
 - iii. _____
 - 1. Most elections in U.S. are for single-member districts

- a. _____

- 2. Members tend to get plurality
 - a. Largest number of votes cast for the office
 - b. People hate _____
- 3. _____

- a. They find common ground and work together
- 4. Difficult for minor parties to get on all ballots
- iv. The American Ideological consensus
 - 1. Tend to be _____
 - a. _____

 - 2. America is however a _____ society
 - a. Consisting of many cultures and groups
 - 3. However there is a consensus on fundamental matters
 - a. _____

 - 4. Both Republicans and Democrats look much alike and tend to be _____
 - a. Biggest difference
 - i. _____ tend to want a bigger government
 - ii. _____ tend to want a smaller government

E. Multiparty System

- a. Europeans have a multiparty system in their democracies

Name: _____ Date: _____ Block: _____

- i. _____

- b. Party based on a particular interest
- c. While it does produce broader representation, it also creates _____
- d. Requires the creation of a _____
 - i. _____ of several groups who come together to form a working majority in order to _____

Notes:

F. One-Party System

- a. Only one party is allowed to run for office
 - i. _____
- b. Some parts of the U.S have been a modified one-party system

G. Party Membership Patterns

- a. Membership in parties is voluntary
- b. Political parties tend to have a _____
- c. Typically
 - i. _____ get votes from African Americans, Catholics, Jews and Union members
 - ii. _____ tend to get votes from white males, protestants and business community
- d. Biggest pattern based on family preference
 - i. Nearly 2/3 of U.S. vote the way their _____ vote
- e. History determines
 - i. Based on world events and/ or against the party in power
- f. Income
 - i. Higher incomes for _____
 - ii. Lower incomes for _____

g. Other factors

- i. _____

Notes:

Section 3: The Two party system in American History

H. The Nation's first Parties

a. Ratification of the constitution

i. _____

- 1. wanted a stronger national government
- 2. appealed to financial, manufacturing and commercial interests
- 3. led by Alexander Hamilton

ii. _____

- 1. More sympathetic to the "Common Man"
- 2. Favored limited government
- 3. led by Thomas Jefferson

a. Beginnings of the Democratic Party

iii. John Adams was the last federalist candidate

- 1. He was the incumbent but was beat by Jefferson in 1800

a. _____

I. American Parties: Four Major Eras

a. _____, 1800-1860

i. They controlled most politics till mid-1820's

ii. Then split into factions

- 1. _____
- 2. split over public lands, 2nd bank of U.S., high tariffs, and slavery

iii. Andrew Jackson changed political landscape

- 1. voting rights for all _____
- 2. an increase in number of elected offices
- 3. Spoil system: _____

- iv. Civil war split Democrats
 - 1. helped by the rise of the Whig Party
- b. _____, 1860-1932
 - i. Election of Lincoln ushered the republicans from a _____
 - ii. Good _____ times kept the GOP in power
 - iii. 1896 GOP expanded it's electorate
 - 1. _____
 - 2. however, Democrats went away from _____
 - a. focus on a particular region
- c. _____, 1932-1968
 - i. The Great Depression ushered in FDR to office
 - 1. _____
 - ii. Only lasted till the pressures of Vietnam in the mid 1960's
- d. The start of a new era
 - i. From Nixon to today, has been marked with a _____

Notes:

Section 4: The Minor Parties

J. Minor parties in the U.S.

- a. _____
- b. Ideological parties
 - i. _____
 - ii. Example
 - 1. socialist party, libertarian party
- c. single issue parties
 - i. _____
- d. Economic Protest parties
 - i. Demanded economic changes to the Major parties
 - 1. faded demands after _____
 - 2. Example
 - a. Greenback party and Populist party

- e. _____
 - i. Groups that split from major parties
 - 1. normally short lived

K. Why Minor parties are important

- a. Help impact policies and bring them to the fore-front
- b. Also they play the _____
- c. Minor parties tend to make _____
 - i. Progressive income tax, women's suffrage, railroad and bank regulation, and old age pension plans
- d. Problem is _____ adapt to minor parties platform

Section 5: Party Organization

L. National Party Machinery

- a. National Convention
 - i. Considered party's _____
 - ii. Meet to nominate party's Vice Presidential and Presidential candidates
 - 1. Today is more of a _____
- b. The National Committee
 - i. The party's affairs are controlled here
 - ii. Really, only works to organize

- c. The National Chairperson
 - i. Leader of _____
 - 1. _____
 - ii. Otherwise in charge of promoting party unity, _____, recruiting new voters, and preparing for presidential elections
- d. The Congressional Campaign Committees
 - i. In charge of getting _____ re-elected

Notes:

Name: _____ Date: _____ Block: _____

M. State and Local Machinery

- a. Organized by electoral map
- b. Split-up into congressional districts within states
 - i. Then into _____
 - ii. Ward: _____

 - iii. Precinct: _____

N. The Future of the Major Parties

- a. Split-ticket voting
 - i. _____

Notes: