



## Political Parties

### Major Political Parties Gallery Walk Activity

# TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

#### Benchmark

SS.7.C.2.8: Identify America's current political parties, and illustrate their ideas about government.

#### Activity

Students will apply their knowledge of the beliefs of major political parties to a gallery walk activity where they will read scenarios and analyze the text to determine which major political party – Republican Party or Democratic Party – is represented by the scenario. Students will complete the activity by completing a reflection.

#### Materials

- ★ Political Party Gallery Walk Scenario Cards [Google Slides](#)
- ★ In Person Learning Student Graphic Organizer, page 2 – one per student
  - Optional Student Scaffolded Version\*, page 4
- ★ Hybrid or Distance Learning Student Graphic Organizer, page 5 – one per student
  - Optional Student Scaffolded Version, page 7
- ★ Answer Key

#### Instructions for In Person Learning

1. Prepare for the activity by printing the Gallery Walk Scenario Cards and place them around the room in numerical order.
2. Pass out the In Person Learning Student Graphic Organizer, one per student.
3. Place students in groups of 2-3 and place each group at one of the gallery walk stations. Review the instructions as a whole class.
  - a. Remind students to pay attention to the card number (bottom right of each card) and write in the correct spot on their graphic organizer.
  - b. Be sure to remind students to highlight or underline if they think the person in the scenario is a Republican or a Democrat. Then, they will use text evidence to explain how they arrived at their answer.
  - c. Have students stay at the station while filling out their graphic organizer before moving to the next card.
4. Have students fill out the reflection questions once they have visited every station.

#### Instructions for Hybrid or Distance Learning

1. Share the Gallery Walk Scenario Cards and Hybrid or Distance Learning Student Graphic Organizer with students.
2. Instruct students to work independently or in pairs to click through each slide and complete the handout. Review the instructions as a whole class.
  - a. Remind students to pay attention to the card number (bottom right of each card) and write in the correct spot on their graphic organizer.
  - b. Be sure to remind students to highlight or underline if they think the person in the scenario is a Republican or a Democrat. Then, they will use text evidence to explain how they arrived at their answer.
  - c. Have students stay at the station while filling out their graphic organizer before moving to the next card.
3. Have students fill out the reflection questions once they have visited every station.

This resource series was developed in partnership between OCPS civics teachers and the Lou Frey Institute.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Political Parties Student Graphic Organizer for in person learning

**Directions:** Walk around the room, stopping to read each scenario card (you may not be able to stop in order, so be sure to write next to the correct card number!). While you are at the scenario card, read carefully to identify which major political party of the United States the person belongs to. Highlight or underline the party affiliation and then fill out the “How Do You Know?” section. Be sure to use textual evidence to support your response (hint: clues from the scenario card). Once you have filled out the graphic organizer with your response, move on to the next scenario card.

Scenario Card #	Which major party? <b>Highlight</b> or <b>Underline</b>	How do You Know? <i>Use Textual Evidence</i>
1	Republican Democrat	
2	Republican Democrat	
3	Republican Democrat	
4	Republican Democrat	
5	Republican Democrat	
6	Republican Democrat	
7	Republican Democrat	
8	Republican Democrat	
9	Republican Democrat	
10	Republican Democrat	

Summary Questions	
<b>Directions:</b> Now that you have completed the gallery walk, answer the summary questions to show your understanding of the major political parties of the United States.	
What is the main difference in ideas about government between the two major U.S. political parties, Democrats and Republicans?	
Do you think there should be more than two major political parties in the United States? Why or why not?	

**STUDENT HANDOUT  
SCAFFOLDED VERSION  
FOR IN PERSON LEARNING**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Political Parties Student Graphic Organizer\* for in person learning

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Scenario Card #	Which major party? <b>Highlight</b> or <b>Underline</b>	How do You Know? <i>Use Textual Evidence</i>
1	Republican Democrat	I know this because Malik _____ and _____ believe _____.
2	Republican Democrat	I know this because Simra _____ and _____ believe _____.
3	Republican Democrat	I know this because Liam _____ and _____ believe _____.
4	Republican Democrat	I know this because Isaiah _____ and _____ believe _____.
5	Republican Democrat	I know this because Tamara _____ and _____ believe _____.
6	Republican Democrat	I know this because Corbin _____ and _____ believe _____.
7	Republican Democrat	I know this because Leah _____ and _____ believe _____.
8	Republican Democrat	I know this because Tomas _____ and _____ believe _____.
9	Republican Democrat	I know this because Arianna _____ and _____ believe _____.
10	Republican Democrat	I know this because Greg _____ and _____ believe _____.

Summary Questions	
<b>Directions:</b> Now that you have completed the gallery walk, answer the summary questions to show your understanding of the major political parties of the United States.	
What is the main difference in ideas about government between the two major U.S. political parties, Democrats and Republicans?	The main difference in ideas about government between the two major parties are _____ _____ _____.
Do you think there should be more than two major political parties in the United States? Why or why not?	I think _____ because _____ _____.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Political Parties Student Graphic Organizer**  
**for hybrid or distance learning**

**Directions:** Use the gallery walk slideshow to read each scenario card (be sure to pay attention to the card number at the bottom and write next to the correct card number in the organizer below!). Read carefully to determine which major political party of the United States the person belongs to. Once you have figured it out, highlight or underline the party affiliation and then fill out the “How Do You Know?” section. Be sure to use textual evidence to support your response (hint: clues from the scenario card).

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FOR HYBRID OR DISTANCE LEARNING**

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<b>What is the main difference in ideas about government between the two major U.S. political parties, Democrats and Republicans?</b>	The main difference in ideas about government between the two major parties are _____ _____ _____.
<b>Do you think there should be more than two major political parties in the United States? Why or why not?</b>	I think _____ because _____ _____.