







HOW DO THEY COMPARE?
Identifying political parties' ideas about government
 SS.7.C.2.8

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Read each issue statement from the 2016 Democratic and Republican Party Platforms. After you reach each statement, summarize the main idea in the space provided on the graphic organizer. Then, read the final question and summarize each political party's view on government.









Summarize the DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S view on the issue.	ISSUE	Summarize the REPUBLICAN PARTY's view on the issue.
	 TAXES	
	 NATIONAL DEBT	
	 AGRICULTURE	
	 MILITARY SPENDING	
	 IMMIGRATION	
	 EDUCATION	

Based on the issue statements above, how would you summarize each political party's view of government?

DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S view on government:	REPUBLICAN PARTY's view on government:



Party Platform Issue Statements

	 DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 REPUBLICAN PARTY
	The Democratic Party believes the wealthiest Americans and largest businesses must pay their fair share of taxes. They will offer tax cuts to middle-class families.	The Republican Party believes that whenever taxes impact a person or businesses' ability to save money or invest in others, those taxes must be lowered.
	The Democratic Party will make sure that new money spent on government programs or tax cuts won't add to the nation's debt. They will make sure that the government is spending money wisely and efficiently.	The Republican Party must require firm limits on future debt and speed up repayment of the money we owe. This will help create a more responsible and limited government.
	The Democratic Party will increase funding to support the next generation of farmers and ranchers.	The Republican Party remains committed to expanding opportunities for farmers to export their crops and trade with other countries.
	The Democratic Party supports a budget that meets the strategic challenges we face, but believes that we must end waste in the defense budget. And they will make sure that the Department of Defense invests its budget wisely.	The Republican Party believes that Congress and the president should work together to approve military spending at the level necessary to defend our country.
	The Democratic Party believes we need to urgently fix our broken immigration system and create a path to citizenship for law-abiding families who are here.	The Republican Party believes that illegal immigration puts everyone in danger. They oppose any form of forgiveness for those who, by breaking the law, have disadvantaged those who have obeyed it.
	The Democratic Party supports neighborhood public schools and high-quality public charter schools.	The Republican Party supports public and private options for learning, including home-schooling, career and technical education, private or parochial schools, magnet schools, charter schools, online learning, and early-college high schools.

