

Campaign Project

Task #1

Create a Platform (40 points)

A platform is how your candidates feel about important government and social issues. You will focus on the key issues of the current campaign, researching all and then writing out your candidate position.

Your job is to find out what your candidate thinks about all of the issues as well as what you think about one specific issue. You will do research about both your candidate and his/her political party's stance on all of the issues. You will then choose one issue and do further research on all sides. You must consult at least 3 additional sources apart from your candidate and party's websites on that one issue.

You have the following tasks ahead of you:

1. Research your candidate and party's stance on all the issues given: Economy, Taxes, Social Security, Health Care, Social Issues (Gay marriage/Abortion), Immigration, Foreign policy (Afghanistan, China, Middle East, Iran, Syria), National Security and Military, Education, and Energy.
2. Each member of your group will choose a different topic to do further research on.
3. Identify 3 additional high-quality internet sites about the topic.
3. As a culminating activity you will write a one-page essay including both your parties and your own opinion about your topic and what you think should be done about your issue.
4. Cite your five websites at the end of the paper

Paper

- At top corner include your name and political party
- 12 pt. Times New Roman Font
- 1 inch margins
- Single space

Task #2

Platform Writing and Nominate a Candidate (10 points)

Each of the parties will meet in class and share the results of their Political Issues research. The party will write a statement of their candidate's belief on each of the issues (about a paragraph for each issue). These statements will be written up and typed up by one group member for homework as their party's platform.

One of your group members will read your parties platform aloud to the class as your candidate's campaign manager.

Task #3

Create a Poster and 2 Bumper Stickers for your Candidate (25 points)

Each Party will create a poster and two **different** bumper stickers for their candidate. The poster must be final quality and will be hung around the classroom. The bumper stickers can use the same slogan/theme as the poster, but the must be two different designs. The bumper stickers need to be final professional quality as well. Remember, you are trying to get your candidate elected. Posters and bumper stickers must include:

- A slogan
- Your candidates name
- The position your candidate is running for
- Colors

Task #4

Candidate's Speech (15 points)

Whichever group member was chosen as your campaign manager, will present a speech to the class about why we should vote for your candidate as president of the United States. Work together as a group to write the speech. Remember, this speech should be motivational and convincing. You want as many votes as possible. Requirements for the speech:

- At least 2 minutes long
- Proof and details about why you are the best for America
- Your stance on key government and social issues
- Motivate people to vote for you
- Exciting and interesting to listen to

Task #5

Create a Commercial (30 points)

Each group will create a 30 second commercial “advertising” their candidate. Your commercial should be convincing in order to get your candidate elected. Your group must either film the commercial and play it for the class OR act out the commercial in front of the class. Ideas for your commercial:

- Personal testament from candidate
- Candidate interacting with “the people”
- Candidates track record
- Candidate platform
- Might want to finish with slogan

Task #6

Presidential Debate (15 points)

Each candidate will take his or her place at the front of the room at a desk or podium labeled with their faction name. (Republican, Democrat, etc.) The teacher will act as the moderator for a Presidential Debate. The students who are not candidates will serve as reporters asking question of the various candidates about their platforms. The teacher will moderate to be sure each candidate answers an equal number of questions. Non-candidate students must have prepared questions about the major platform issues and other current events.

Task #7

The Election

At the conclusion of the debate the class will vote. A ballot with all the names of the candidates will be prepared. A “Voting Booth” will be set up, either a classroom closet or hallway, so the secrecy of the ballot remains intact. Each student will vote, however, you may not vote for your own candidate (in order to prevent biased voting). The candidate with the most votes “wins.” You may base your vote on whatever you want: who had the best campaign, the candidate who best fits your political ideals, the best looking candidate - it’s your vote so I don’t care. HOWEVER, candidates or groups may not bribe people to vote for them.

***THE CLINCHER: Whichever candidate wins the vote receives 20 extra credit points for themselves and every member of their campaign group!!! Incentive to run a good quality and convincing campaign!

Total Points Possible: 120 (plus 20 extra credit points if your candidate wins)

This is a huge assignment and can be the difference between passing and not passing this class for many of you. I will expect regular attendance, participation and effort through out this project. If your grade is a C or below right now, you MUST do well on this project to do well in this class. Good luck and have fun with this!