

American Government: Stories of a Nation for the AP® Course

Guided Reading

Section 14.3: Parties and Political Campaigns

Name _____
Date _____ Class _____

 **Before you read**

Before reading this section, take a moment to read the Learning Target and vocabulary terms you will encounter.

Learning Target: Explain the role of political parties in nominating candidates.

AP® Key Concepts

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| nomination | caucus |
| delegate | superdelegate |
| primary election | front-loading |
| open primary | national convention |
| closed primary | candidate-centered campaign |

 **While you read**

Use the following table to take notes as you read the section.

Steps in nomination process	Role of political parties

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 **After you read**

Once you've finished reading the section, answer the following questions.

1. Which of the following is NOT a phase of a political campaign?
 - A. Parties choose their nominees.
 - B. Candidates are sworn into office.
 - C. Candidates decide to run.
 - D. Parties support their nominee during the election.

2. To win the party's nomination, especially for president, a candidate needs the support of _____ the MOST.
 - A. the party's highest-ranking federal officeholder
 - B. party leaders
 - C. general election voters
 - D. party delegates

3. _____ set many of the rules governing the party nomination process.
 - A. State and federal laws
 - B. Party elites
 - C. Federal Election Commission workers
 - D. Party delegates

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4. A registered independent can vote in a(n) _____ primary.
5. New York is a closed-primary state. All the following people are registered voters in New York: Pedro, a Democrat; Melissa, a Republican; Jada, a Libertarian; and Abdul, a Socialist. Who can vote in the New York Democratic primary?
- A. Pedro only
 - B. Melissa only
 - C. Abdul and Jada only
 - D. all four people
6. _____ differentiates an open primary from a closed primary.
- A. The region of the country
 - B. How votes are cast
 - C. The party affiliation of voters
 - D. The timing of the election
7. Which of the following describes a caucus?
- A. a primary election in which all eligible voters may vote, regardless of their political affiliation
 - B. an election in which a state's voters choose delegates who support a presidential candidate for nomination
 - C. a process through which eligible voters meet to select delegates to represent their preferences in the nomination process
 - D. a primary election in which only those who have registered as a member of a political party may vote
8. MOST commonly, the Republican Party awards delegates to candidates based on:
- A. caucus votes only.
 - B. who won the primary statewide.
 - C. splitting delegates between winners in the state overall and congressional districts.
 - D. both primary election outcomes and superdelegates' preferences.
9. By awarding delegates by the proportional system, Democratic presidential nominees are likely to be _____ than their Republican counterparts.
- A. known later
 - B. more ideologically extremist
 - C. known sooner
 - D. more conservative
10. California is a heavily Democratic state and many of its elected officials are Democrats. Who is MOST likely NOT to be a superdelegate to the party's nominating convention, assuming all the officeholders listed below are Democrats?
- A. the governor
 - B. one of California's senators
 - C. one of California's representatives
 - D. the mayor of a small town

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11. Because of the order of the presidential primaries and the need to gain momentum, which person is MOST likely to have his or her issues addressed by presidential candidates, especially in the early stages of the presidential campaign?

- A. Raven, an inner-city African American mother of three in Detroit
- B. Scott, a white New York City bank executive
- C. Vincent, a white soy farmer from rural Iowa
- D. Camila, a Mexican American farm laborer in California

12. Which occurs at a party's national convention?

- A. Party superdelegates are revealed.
- B. The new president is inaugurated.
- C. Delegates officially vote to select the party's nominee.
- D. Caucus voters come together to select the party's nominee.

13. Why are modern-day nominating conventions more akin to pep rallies than the brokered conventions of yesteryear?

- A. The presidential nominee is already known by convention time.
- B. The party elites have already determined the content of the platform.
- C. Television audiences have demanded more entertainment and less politics.
- D. Presidential candidates no longer have to make their case to the electorate at the convention.

14. In 2016, Donald Trump used his wealth to buy independence from the Republican Party and espoused issues not generally popular with its party leaders. In this instance, he ran a _____.

- A. closed primary
- B. candidate-centered campaign
- C. brokered convention
- D. open primary