**POLITICAL PARTIES ASSIGNMENT**

You are part of a group who will be analyzing one current political party and making a presentation to the class about this party’s solutions for the problems that confront the U.S. today. You will be assigned one of the following political parties who all had Presidential Candidates on the Colorado ballots in 2012: Constitution, Democratic, Green, Justice, Libertarian, Constitution, Reform, Republican or Socialist.

**TASK:** Your group of up to 3 people will be responsible for completing both parts of this assignment.

**Part 1: Research Paper**: 3 paragraphs total (TIP: Most information can be found on each parties’ official website)

1. In a paragraph, write a brief historical background of the party.
2. In a paragraph, describe in general terms your party’s philosophy regarding the role of government in American life.
3. In a paragraph, describe your party’s position on two major issues. The issues you choose should be the two that best represent the party’s ideals. Be sure to explain how your party justifies its position. (Examples of issues: immigration, budget/deficit, war, environment, abortion, rights, etc.)

**Part 2: Gallery Walk Poster**

From the information you gather in your research you will create a poster for a gallery walk. Divide the paper into five sections, make up an original title for your poster which includes the name of your political party, and the following items:

**Section 1 --** A current campaign slogan used by your political party.

**Section 2 --** Create a poem or song with at least 10 different lines which reflects your political party's point of view. **Rhyme is required**.

**Section 3 --** Draw or print out the mascot/logo for your political party. Include a brief description of how the mascot/logo represents the party. If a mascot/logo doesn't exist, create one and explain how it represents the party.

**Section 4 --** Find a photo of, draw or trace a famous person from your party (1950-present) and include a significant quote from that person. Include an explanation of how the quote represents the party’s ideals.

**Section 5 --** Create an original political cartoon which reflects your party's position.

**REMEMBER** --The key to success for this activity is for you to present your Political Party in a genuine way. The rest of the class must think that you firmly believe what you are saying. No matter how strange a position may seem to you, try and understand it and present it as if you believed it all of your life.

**EVALUATION**

The attached rubrics will be used to determine your grade on this assignment.

**REFLECTION**

After a gallery walk is conducted discuss the merits and limitations of each party's perspective in an Exit Ticket.

* What are the fundamental beliefs of each party? This should be an analysis of each party’s worldview, not a list of definitions or paraphrase of a poster’s “answer.”
* Which parties are naturally against each other because their fundamental beliefs clash?
* Which parties are most likely to agree on some issues? Why?
* Which party do you find most compatible with your current political ideology? Why?

**Poster Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CATEGORY | Advanced | Proficient | Partially Proficient | Unsatisfactory |
| Presentation | Well-rehearsed with smooth delivery that holds audience attention. | Rehearsed with fairly smooth delivery that holds audience attention most of the time. | Delivery not smooth, but able to maintain interest of the audience most of the time. | Delivery not smooth and audience attention often lost. |
| Mechanics | No misspellings or grammatical errors. | Three or fewer misspellings and/or mechanical errors. | Four misspellings and/or grammatical errors. | More than 4 errors in spelling or grammar. |
| Attractiveness | Makes excellent use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance the presentation. | Makes good use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance to presentation. | Makes use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. but occasionally these detract from the presentation content. | Use of font, color, graphics, effects etc. but these often distract from the presentaion content. |
| Organization | Content is well organized using headings or bulleted lists to group related material. | Uses headings or bulleted lists to organize, but the overall organization of topics appears flawed. | Content is logically organized for the most part. | There was no clear or logical organizational structure, just lots of facts. |

**Content Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CATEGORY | Advanced | Proficient | Partially Proficient | Unsatisfactory |
| Historical Background | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |
| Philosophy regarding the role of government | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |
| Position on 2 major issues | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |
| Campaign Slogan | Slogan is accurate and truly represents the principles of the political party. | Slogan is accurate and represents belief of political party. | Slogan may be somewhat inaccurate or may not fully represent the political party. | Slogan is inaccurate or missing. |
| Song/Poem | Song or poem demonstrates a deep understanding of their political party and is creative. | Song or poem demonstrates an accurate understanding of their political party. | Song or poem demonstrates only a developing understanding of their political party. | Song or poem is inaccurate or missing. |
| Mascot/logo with description | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |
| Photo/drawing of famous person, quote, explanation | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |
| Political Cartoon | Political cartoon demonstrates a deep understanding of their political party’s perspective and is creative. | Political cartoon demonstrates an accurate understanding of their political party’s perspective. | Political cartoon demonstrates only a developing understanding of their political party’s perspective. | Political cartoon is inaccurate or missing. |