

Unit 5 Content Review: Political Participation

Essential Questions

1. How have changes in technology influenced political communication and behavior?
2. Why do levels of participation and influence in politics vary?
3. How effective are the various methods of political participation in shaping public policies?

Chapters: 6-11

Big Idea	Enduring Understandings	Essential Knowledge
Civ	<p>PRD-2:The impact of federal policies on campaigning and electoral rules continues to be contested by both sides of the political spectrum.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Elections <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Cost of Elections <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why did Political Action Committees (PACs) begin? What do PACs do? B. Campaign Finance Reform <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define soft money. How did the McCain-Feingold Act (2002) attempt to limit soft money? 2. What important precedents came from the following court cases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Buckley v. Valeo (1976) b) Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010) 3. Describe the job of the Federal Elections Commission (FEC)? C. Incumbency <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define incumbent. Why do members of the House of Representatives tend to have a higher reelection rate than members in the Senate? 2. List the advantages incumbents have when it comes to winning reelection. Include information about franking, pork-barrel legislation, junkets and credit claiming. D. House and Senate Elections <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List the qualifications to run for the House of Representatives. 2. What factor determines how many members a state receives in the House? 3. Define the concept of single-member districts. 4. Describe the meaning of marginal districts and safe districts. 5. How did the passage of the 17th Amendment affect senatorial elections? 6. List the Qualifications to run for the US Senate. E. The Electoral College <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss why the Framers were hesitant to allow a popular vote to determine who would become President. 2. Briefly explain how the Electoral College works. How

	<p>PRD-3: The various forms of media provide citizens with political information and influence the ways in which they participate politically.</p>	<p>does the winner-take-all feature affect elections?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. List the pros and cons of using the Electoral College (at least 3 each) <p>F. Primaries, Caucuses, and the Conventions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do caucuses differ from primaries? 2. How do closed primaries differ from open primaries? 3. Why do many states try to hold their primaries/caucuses as early as possible? (This is called frontloading) 4. Describe what occurs at conventions. <p>G. General Elections</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the pros and cons of being an incumbent presidential candidate. <p>II. Mass Media and Political Participation</p> <p>A. Mass Media as a Linkage Institution</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How has mass media influenced how citizens routinely acquire information? 2. How has the media's use of polling results impacted elections? 3. Explain how the quality of democratic debate and the level of political knowledge among citizens is impacted by the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increased media choices b) Ideologically oriented programming c) Uncertainty over the credibility of news sources
<p>Co mp ati</p>	<p>PMI-5: Political parties, interest groups, and social movements provide opportunities for participation and influence how people relate to government and policy-makers.</p>	<p>I. Political Parties and Interest Groups</p> <p>A. Political Parties</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define political party. 2. How do political parties serve as linkage institutions? 3. What are the primary functions of political parties? 4. Why must political parties often adjust their policies and messaging? 5. Describe the responsible party model. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Do the major parties today fit this model? Why or why not? <p>B. Third Parties</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain how the following structural barriers impact third-party success: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Winner-take-all voting districts b) Incorporation of third-party agendas into major party platforms 2. How can third parties influence general elections? <p>C. Interest Groups</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define interest group. 2. Why have interest groups gained a negative reputation? How can interest groups contribute to the electoral process? 3. Define single-interest group. 4. How do interest groups shape policy?

<p>M et</p>	<p>MPA-3: Factors associated with political ideology, efficacy, structural barriers and demographics influence the nature and degree of political participation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. The Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Legal Protections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe how each of the following expanded opportunities for political participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 15th Amendment b) 17th Amendment c) 19th Amendment d) 24th Amendment e) 26th Amendment B. Models of Voting Behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe each of the following models of voting behavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Rational-choice voting b) Retrospective voting c) Prospective voting d) Party-line voting C. Structural Barriers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How might voter registration laws and election procedures (How, when and where to vote) affect voter turnout? D. Voter Choice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How might political efficacy and civic duty influence a citizen's decision of whether or not to vote? 2. How are demographic factors used to predict voter turnout? Who is more likely to vote in elections? 3. Describe how each of the following factors influences voter choice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Party identification b) Candidate characteristics c) Contemporary political issues d) Demographic characteristics (Religious beliefs, gender, race and ethnicity etc.)
--------------------	---	---

Potential FRQ Prompts: