

Wilson 16 Chapter 10 Assignment

1. How much money was raised in the 2016 presidential cycle?
2. How can observers tell that money is becoming more important to waging political campaigns since 1980?
3. What is and how does the invisible primary work?
4. How does a caucus work in the presidential candidate selection process?
5. How might caucuses support a candidate unappealing to the majority of a party's followers?
6. How can the media make or break candidates unknown to the masses?
7. Why is momentum so important to campaigns? Think about coming in 8th in Iowa, etc.
8. What is front loading?
9. How does front loading hurt a state like California whose primary is late in the season? Think number of candidates.
10. Why is Super Tuesday a significant day in the primary process?
11. What state goes first in the candidate selection process for choosing the nominee for president?
12. What state goes second?
13. Why is having these two states go first so problematic. Think demographics. (not just race)
14. What happened when Michigan and Florida tried to jump the line in the Democratic primary season in 2008?
15. How and when is the president formally chosen?
16. How are electoral votes awarded?
17. How are swing states important to presidential elections?
18. How do the realities of swing states hurt California during the campaign process?
19. Identify the five most prominent swing states in the last few election cycles.
20. What three things do campaigns do to get votes to support their candidates?
21. How does retrospective voting work in elections?
22. How does prospective voting work in election?
23. Why does it take more info and understanding to engage in prospective voting?
24. "It's the economy, stupid" almost always. Why?
25. What two reason cause people to support the other party's candidates rather than their normal partisan identification?
26. If character was such an important factor in the 2016 presidential election, what conclusions can be drawn from the people's vote?
27. Compare and contrast valence and positional issues.
28. Why is activating a voter's latent partisanship important to campaigns?
29. What form do campaign communications take other than television commercials?
30. In what ways can attack ads be seen as a valid information process?
31. How is mudslinging not necessarily the same as an attack ad?
32. Why are positive ads worthless to voters?
33. What do ads do for potential voters?
34. Why do the political convention and the debates matter to voters?
35. What events take places at a nominating convention before the nominee speaks?
36. Why are the presidential debates important politically?
37. Using the top graph in Figure 10.5 what conclusion can be made about white support for the Democratic Party since 1996?

38. Build your super Democratic supporter using the three graphics in Figure 10.5.
39. Who are the most loyal of Democratic voters?
40. How is gender playing out in determining support for Democrats and Republicans?
41. Which groups tend to vote Democratic?
42. Which groups tend to vote Republican?
43. What is an incumbent in politics?
44. What is the historical reelection rate to Congress?
45. How is incumbency more important to a member of congress than to the president?
46. How is name recognition an advantage to incumbents?
47. What is the frank and how is this an advantage to incumbents?
48. If 90% of congress gets reelected why do incumbents win the funding battle against challengers?
49. How many members are in the House of Representatives?
50. What does it mean to apportion seats in the House of Representatives after the census?
51. What does it mean to gerrymander a district?
52. Why would someone engage in gerrymandering?
53. How can gerrymandering be unfair? See challenges in Maryland and Wisconsin in 2017.
54. How do packing and cracking factor into gerrymandering?
55. What does it mean that a political district is contiguous?
56. What is a mid-term election? Who is up for election?
57. Why is it said there exists a coattails effect that doesn't happen during midterm elections?
58. Based on what historically happens to a president's party in midterm elections what can be expected to happen to Republicans in Congress during the 2018 midterm elections?
59. What is required to qualify for presidential campaign matching funds?
60. Why have almost all candidates opted out of receiving this "free money?"
61. What are political action committees (PACs), and what rules guide their operations?
62. What was decided in *Buckley v. Valeo*?
63. What three things did the Campaign Finance Reform Act (McCain-Feingold Act) do?
64. What is the current limit an individual can give to a candidate for federal office?
65. What was decided in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (FEC)*?
66. What requirement is there for groups wanting to fund advertisements through super pacs as it relates to candidate campaigns?
67. Compare and contrast 527s and super pacs.
68. How do super pacs appear to be killing PACs?
69. What advantage for donors do 501(c)4s have over super pacs?
70. Why is dark money bad for our electoral system?
71. Why might a group legitimately wish to keep their political donation hidden?
72. If dark money spending is increasing what does that do to the public's understanding of the candidates and election processes?