

Wilson 16 Chapter 9 Assignment

1. Compare and contrast unified and divided government.
2. What advantage is there to having unified government?
3. What advantage is there to having divided government as it relates to enacting policy?
4. Why did the founders have a negative opinion about factions?
5. To what extent do George Washington's words about factions represent the state of politics today? Give examples.
6. What is the goal of political parties?
7. Explain how the three parts of political parties help them achieve their goal.
8. How does the lack of control over placing names on the ballot make US parties weaker than European parties?
9. How does the self-selection process of candidates promote independence of thought and action not present in European parties?
10. How does our constitution prevent the president from rewarding members of congress to work for the new administration?
11. How does the federal system of government weaken Democrats and Republicans?
12. How did the reforms of the progressive aim to take partisan control out of elections.=?
13. Why are the initiative and referendum empowering to the people over party wishes?
14. Simplify and identify the position of Democrats and Republicans on the issues presented in Table 9.1.
15. What is a political realignment?
16. In what ways do the national party organizations work to get candidates elected to congress?
17. What role do the people play in primaries? How is this different from the role party leaders played before the Progressive Era?
18. Why is it appropriate for non-party members to be excluded in closed primary voting?
19. It's 2020 Trump is running unopposed in the Republican primary. How would an open primary cause trouble in the Democratic primary?
20. What are the advantages of using a top-two primary?
21. How does a top-two primary give voters more choice than under the traditional primary system?
22. What is the purpose of the national convention?
23. How are pledged delegates to the national convention constrained by voters in their state?
24. How do Democrats assign the number of pledged delegates a state receives?
25. How do Republicans assign the number of pledged delegates a state receives?
26. How are Superdelegates an attack upon democracy?
27. What is the current status of Superdelegates? (As of June 2018 the plan was to revise the system in the Democratic Party in August). How many? What role played?
28. How are the pledged delegates to the convention (who then vote on party rules and platform ideas) unrepresentative of the people in each party?
29. How does this contribute to the polarization of the parties?
30. How does the "invisible primary" work to keep extremist candidates out of office?
31. How does the selection of Donald Trump show the invisible primary isn't 100% effective?
32. If 90% of party members stick to their party's nominee then where is the election really decided?
33. How does the candidate selection process cause the middle to be disappointed in their choices election after election?
34. How are elections a measure of a party's GOTV efforts?
35. What services can parties provide to candidates running for office?
36. What is the purpose and frequency of the national convention?
37. Why are national committees needed between presidential elections? Think midterms.
38. How does the Hatch Act minimize corruption in government?

39. What are the two primary factors that influence a person's choice of party identification?
40. Identify 3 trends that can be found in the Democrat and Republican membership over time as depicted in Figure 9.2
41. If Democrats have greater membership in EVERY year since 1952 what does that say about their voters given their lack of consistency in elections at the national level?
42. How can Republicans' have won so many elections since 1952 despite having less membership identification?
43. What are the ramifications of the data in Figure 9.3 as it relates to 1992 to the present?
44. How do the words at the end of 205 and beginning of 206 demonstrate our inability to work for ALL Americans?
45. How do these attitudes prevent any incentive to work for bipartisanship?
46. How do these words suggest that Trump using alternative facts will NOT cause problems for him among his supporters?
47. What is the difference between a two-party system and a multi-party system?
48. Who is the party of the big population centers?
49. Who is the party of the less populous areas?
50. How is a plurality system different than a system requiring a majority to win?
51. How is it that elections can have plurality winners if we are a two-party system?
52. How is the single member district (SMD) an advantage to voters over the European style of selecting national legislative members?
53. How are electoral college votes divided in the states?
54. What areas are said to be the policy initiatives of the Democrats?
55. What areas are said to be the policy initiatives of the Republicans?
56. What was required under the No Child Left Behind Act?