Mr. Janas

Government

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Political Party Project**



**Introduction:**

Many of you will be able to register to vote this year. While we won’t be having another presidential election for a few years, it is important to think about your choice. Who would you vote for? How will you decide which political party best fits your values? Will you be a Republican or a Democrat? Will you remain independent or decide to vote for a third party? This project will help shed some light on these questions.

**Task:**

You and your group of four students will complete a web quest report, conduct research on an assigned political party from the 2008 presidential race, write a platform speech regarding the candidate and parties belief on certain public policy issues, and finally present your finding to the class.

**Steps to complete the assignment:**

1) Complete the web quest individually. Follow the instructions and use the websites offered.

2) Next break your group of four students into four policy managers each with the following task:

Policy Manager 1- Education and Environment

Policy Manager 2- Health Care and Taxes

Policy Manager 3- Social Security and Welfare & Poverty

Policy Manager 4- Budget & Economy and Corporations

3) Each Policy Manager will write a political platform speech for your candidate. The platform will include your candidate’s position on the issue(s), background of the issue(s) and why your candidate believes that way (what fundamental or ideological reason do they have for their belief)

4) As a group you will produce a political poster about your party as well as a PowerPoint on your political party. It will include:

a) Brief history of the party (1-2 slides)

b) Current info on party leadership & ideology (1-2 slide)

c) What the party believes in regarding the above mentioned issues (4-6 slides)

d) Any interesting facts about the party (1 slide)

Part I- Political Identification Web quest

Use [www.selectsmart.com/president](http://www.selectsmart.com/president) Be sure to follow all directions as listed. Remember, your matches are based on percentages. Your ideal theoretical candidate does not exist; this is simply a summation of your beliefs.

1) Click on 2012 Presidential Candidate Selector

2) Read the introduction

3) Answer the questions in the quiz. Please take your time to get an accurate result

4) When finished click on Show My Results and answer the following questions

A) Write down your CLOSEST candidate match and the percentage here:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B) Next Closest Candidate Match and percentage:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C) Candidate with the Least agreement and percentage:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5) Next Click on information link next to the candidate that is your closest match. A new window will appear. Click on your candidates name in the read box near the bottom. Read through the issues for more information. Choose 2 issues that are important to you. Write down the issue, your candidate’s stand on the issue and your position.

D) Issue #1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Stand:

Your Stand if different:

E) Issue #2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Stand:

Your Stand if Different:

6) Now click on the candidate’s name with the Least agreement and read the candidate’s stand on the same two issues. Choose one to report one.

F) Issue: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate’s Stand:

7) Now look up the party of the candidate that you agree with the most and list it here

G)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8) Now look up the party of the candidate that you are in least agreement with and list it here

H)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I) Are you surprised that you matched with the candidate/party that you did? Explain your answer.

Part II- Political Party Web quest

Use [www.politics1.com](http://www.politics1.com) Look up information on political parties.

A) Write the web address of your closest party match:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B) Write down the FIVE most substantive and interesting things you found out about your party. NOTE: Spend some time looking around the website. They probably do not have a link to “all the most important stuff about our party”

C) Could you find the MAJOR BELIEFS (Platform) of the party? If not, what was the problem you faced in trying to find out what the party believed in? If yes, write down 3 that are not listed above.

D) Write the web address of the party with least agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E) Write down the FIVE most substantive and interesting things you found out about this party.

F) Next choose one of these sites: [www.rockthevote.com](http://www.rockthevote.com), [www.youthradio.org](http://www.youthradio.org), [www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org) CIRCLE the site you used. Using bullet points, briefly summarize what you found of greatest substance and interest. Explain why you would or would not use this website for information.

G) Look on the Internet for any other political or ideological website. Do not write the name of a search engine. Do not use any website that has been used in this quest. Write the name of the website and the web address.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1) What type of information can be found here?

2) What was most interesting about this website?

3) Explain why you would or would not use this website for information.

Part III- Political Party Research and Presentation

Use <http://www.ontheissues.org/default.htm> to complete your research as well as your political party website assigned to your group.

Your group has been assigned candidate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ political party.

Your group will produce the following:

1) Four Political Platform Speech’s for your Party / Candidate

2) PowerPoint on your Political Party

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be the Policy Manager 1. Your task will be:

* Research your parties position on Education and the Environment

Write a 2-3-page political platform speech. The platform will include your candidate’s position on the issue(s), background of the issue(s) and why your candidate believes that way (what fundamental or ideological reason do they have for their belief)

* Assist in the production of the Political Poster
* Assist in the production of the PowerPoint

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be the Policy Manager 2. Your task will be:

* Research your parties position on Health Care and Taxes and

Write a 2-3-page political platform speech. The platform will include your candidate’s position on the issue(s), background of the issue(s) and why your candidate believes that way (what fundamental or ideological reason do they have for their belief)

* Assist in the production of the Political Poster
* Assist in the production of the PowerPoint

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be the Policy Manager 3. Your task will be:

* Research your party’s position on Social Security and welfare and Poverty and write a 2-3-page political platform speech. The platform will include your candidate’s position on the issue(s), background of the issue(s) and why your candidate believes that way (what fundamental or ideological reason do they have for their belief)
* Assist in the production of the Political Poster
* Assist in the production of the PowerPoint

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be the Policy Manager 4. Your task will be:

* Research your party’s position on Budget & Economy and Corporations and write a 2-3-page political platform speech. The platform will include your candidate’s position on the issue(s), background of the issue(s) and why your candidate believes that way (what fundamental or ideological reason do they have for their belief)
* Assist in the production of the Political Poster
* Assist in the production of the PowerPoint

Political Poster Requirements:

* Must be about the party assigned to you
* Must be on large tag board or large construction paper
* Must include your parties stance on 3 or more public policy issues

PowerPoint Requirements:

* Brief history of the party (1-2 slides)
* Current info on party leadership & ideology (1-2 slide)
* c) What the party believes in regarding the above mentioned issues (4-6 slides)
* Any interesting facts about the party (1 slide)
* Must include a title slide
* Must include an image of the political party symbol or logo
* Must use at least 36 font