

Bellwork

- Explain the purpose of a political party.

Unit 4: Linkage Institutions

APGOPO

Questions

1. What are the 4 **linkage institutions**?
2. What are political parties?
3. What are the functions of a political parties?

Political Parties

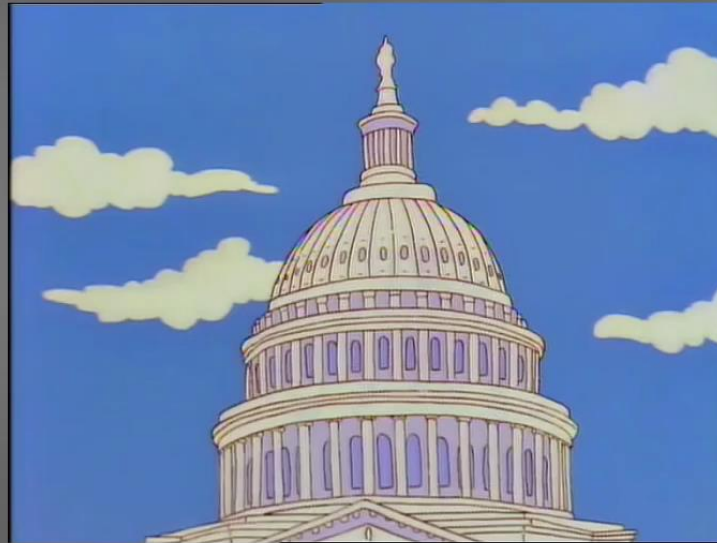
1. Linkage Institutions are groups / organizations that connect the people to government. There are 4 linkages:
 - a) Political Parties
 - b) Elections / Campaigns
 - c) Media
 - d) Interest Groups
2. Groups that seeks to elect candidates to public office by giving that candidate an identification.
3. There are 6 main functions of a political party:
 - a) Provide cues for voters
 - b) Raise and spend campaign funds
 - c) Support for candidates' campaigns
 - d) Register and mobilize voters
 - e) Nominate candidates for government office
 - f) Organize the competition by designation candidates to run under their label

Questions

3. Why has the 2 party system dominated American Politics?

Political Parties

1. **Consensus of Values** - Both parties believe in liberty, equality, and individualism. Neither advocates to discard the Constitution.
2. **Historical Influence** - The nation began with two political parties. During early American history politicians tended to take sides, starting with the debate over the Constitution and continuing with the disagreements within George Washington's cabinet.
3. **The winner-take-all electoral system** - minor parties struggle under this system because they cannot get enough votes to defeat the major party candidates.
4. **Cost** - Costs of a national election limits new party chances



What is the problem with the two-party system?

Questions

What types of minor parties are there?

Political Parties

- **Ideological Parties**
 - ex. Socialists, Communists, Green Party, Libertarians
- **One-Issue Parties**
 - ex. Prohibition Party, Women's Party (to obtain women's voting rights)

Economic Protest Parties

- ex. Populist Party, Reform Party, Greenback Party.
- **Factional Parties**
 - ex. "Bull Moose" Progressive Party, State's Right Party

Questions

5. What are the eras of **party realignment** (a shift in party loyalty)?

Political Parties

5. **1828 – 1860 Democratic, Jacksonian Era**

- resulted in universal white male suffrage, popular election of presidential electors (12th Amendment), national nominating conventions and the spoils system

1860 – 1932 Grand Old Party (GOP) Republican Era

- Starts with Lincoln, emancipation, unionism, national leadership, Gilded Age and big business.

1932 – 1968 New Deal Era

- New Deal coalition, economic liberalism, support for public programs/social programs, civil rights.

1968 – 2008 Era of Divided Government and Dealignment

- A new party era signaled by the Republican takeover, but also by lack of party identification for ideological/neutral view.



Questions

6. How are political parties structured and organized?

Political Parties

Political parties exist on both the national and local levels. Their organization is hierarchical.

- **National Convention**
 - Highest authority
 - Serves as the party's national voice
 - Delegates meet in the summer of every 4th year to select the party's candidate for president
 - Writes and adopts the party's platform
- **National Committee**
 - Manages the political party's business between conventions
 - Selects convention site, established the rules of the convention, publishing and distributing party literature, and helps raise campaign contributions for the party.
- **National Chairperson**
 - National committee, with the consent of the presidential nominee elects the national chairperson
 - Responsible for directing the work for the national committee from the headquarters in D.C.
 - Involved in fundraising, recruiting new party members, encouraging unity in the party, and helping the presidential nominee win the election.
- **Congressional Campaign Committee**
 - Works to ensure the election or reelection of the party's candidates by raising funds and determining how much money and support each candidate will receive
- **State and Local Organization**
 - Determined by state law and differences exist from state to state.
 - State and local parties are structured in much the same way as the national party organization
 - Local parties provide the foot soldiers that hand out party literature, call on citizens to register and to come to the polls on election day.

Bellwork



1. What are the 5 stages of the election process?

The election process starts with the period of time leading up to and then the actual election day. This is called the “invisible primary”

Stage 1: Announcement

- Candidate “throws their hat in the ring”, declares, builds an organization, actively seeks funding, and develops an overall strategy.



1. What are the 5 stages of the election process?

Stage 2: Primary Season

- This includes Primaries and Caucuses.
- This is the decisive way candidates gain support for their party's nomination

Primary

Elections

Explained

Stage 3: Delegate Votes

- This is the time when both parties have a “presumptive” candidate from primary season and the focus shifts to solidifying delegates votes prior to the convention.

Stage 4: Nominating/National Convention

- Traditionally the party out of power holds their convention first.
- “Pep Rally” for the party’s base.
- At each convention they:
 1. adopt a party platform
 2. give the keynote and nominating speeches.
 3. deliver the acceptance speeches.

Stage 5: Campaigning

Here they implement their strategy to win the presidency in the general election. Each presidential hopeful **MUST**:

1. Target the Campaign – what is the best way to achieve an electoral victory (270 points).
2. Take advantage of political assets – **incumbency advantage**.
3. Develop an image the voter responds to. Personality vs. Issues.



1. What is the purpose of the electoral college?

- The electoral college was originally created to act as a filter from mob rule.
- Though a state's electoral votes are equal to the number of its senators and representatives, Constitutionally electors cannot be elected officials (23rd Amendment).
- Each state must have at least 3 electors.
- 270 to win the presidency.
- If there is no electoral , majority winner then the vote goes to Congress.

Questions

1. What changes have been made to the nomination process?
2. What is the difference between a primary and a caucus?
3. What are some criticisms of the primary and caucus system?

L5.2: Nominations and Elections

1. There has been a shift from state-wide caucuses to the more common method of holding a primary.
2. a) Primary – voters directly cast their votes for a candidate. There are 3 types of primaries:
 1. Open – voters can cast a vote for a candidate from any political party.
 2. Closed – voters can vote only for a candidate that is the same party as they are registered as.b) Caucus – selected members of a political party represent the will of the voters.
3. a) The early timing of the Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire Primary draws out the campaign process.
b) Voters tend to lose interest.
c) For states with late primaries/caucuses voters believe their vote is meaningless because the winner has usually been singled out.

Questions

4. How has the Presidential nomination process changed over time?

L5.2: Nominations and Elections

Until 1968	Explanation
Party Dominated	Decisions on who the next president would be were made by party machines and party leaders.
Few Primaries	These served more to determine a candidate's "electability" not determine the nominee.
Short Campaigns	Campaigns were more like sprints party due to the insider nomination process.
Easy Money	There were no federal limits on contributions or spending.
Limited Media Coverage	Campaigns were covered by journalists, but did not impact public opinion as it does today.
Open Conventions	More exciting, many began w/o a clear, decided nominee.
After 1968	Explanation
Candidate Dominated	Campaigns are independent of party establishments. Endorsements by party leaders have little effect on nomination

Questions

4. Continued

L5.2: Nominations and Elections

After 1968	Explanation
Many Primaries	Nominees are largely selected by the voters in the states.
Long Campaigns	Candidates begin organizing campaigns 3-4 years prior, and run a marathon year long primary process.
Difficult Fundraising	FEC now regulates all campaign contributions and spending.
Media Focused	Campaigns are covered intensely by the media and it can help to determine the nominee.
Closed Conventions	By convention night, the nominee has already been chosen, not as exciting as before.

5. What are the major tests a nominee faces on the campaign trail?

5. a) **Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire Primary**

Candidates that do well can usually gain momentum and campaign money.

b) **Super Tuesday**

2nd Tuesday in March; is usually when a clear winner comes to the front.

Questions

5. Continued...

L5.2: Nominations and Elections

5. c) National Convention

This is when the political party establishes its **platform** (party's set of beliefs on issues).

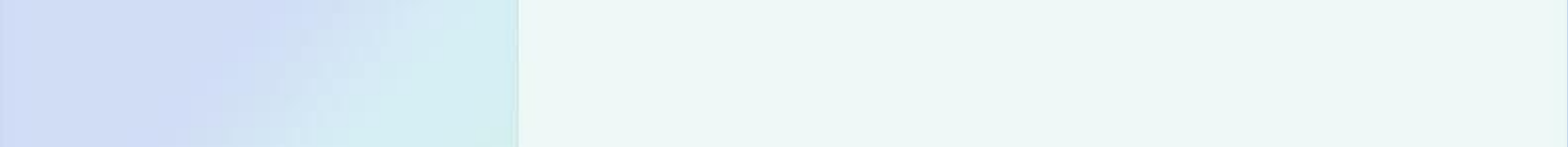
Official nomination of party's presidential and vice presidential candidates (viewed as a nominee coronation).

d) General Election

Once a nominee is selected it becomes a race to capture 270 electoral votes.

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Super PACs

- <http://www.nytimes.com/video/us/politics/10000003778583/the-age-of-super-pacs.html?action=click&contentCollection=Election%202016®ion=Footer&module=WhatsNext&version=WhatsNext&contentID=WhatsNext&moduleDetail=undefined&pgtype=Multimedia>
- <http://www.cc.com/video-clips/yzb7q2/the-colbert-report-colbert-super-pac---trevor-potter>

Campaign Finance 101

Term	Definition	Related Issue
Political Action Committees (PACs)	A group registered with the FEC and used to raise campaign funds.	This attempt at reforms of the 1970's actually funneled more money into specific campaigns and raised more issues. Is the money for specific candidates or just "parties"?
527's	IRS Section 527 allows nonprofit organizations to collect money and use it for political causes such as TV ads (moveon.org)	Not regulated by FEC, a loophole not "connected" with campaigns; allows for more vicious attack ads.
Hard Money	Money for specific candidates regulated by the FEC; controls \$ from individuals or PACs	The per-election limit is 1,000 per individual for a candidate and 5,000 for PACs
Soft Money	Money for parties for items such as "party building" or "voter registration efforts"; not to go to candidate campaign.	How can we differentiate between party issues and specific candidate's stances? How can we limit such uses?
Matching Funds	Federal money is given to candidates to help level the financial playing field, based on hard money collected	Candidates receive a dollar-for-dollar match for donations less than \$250, if at least \$5,000 is gathered from at least 20 states.
Bundling	Putting together individual contributions (hard money) into group checks is often done by companies using multiple employee contributions	Is this legal? Do the employees know this is happening?

Bellwork



Questions

1. What is an interest group?
2. What are the functions of an interest group?
3. How do interest groups achieve their goals?
4. What tactics do lobbyists use to achieve the interest groups goals?

L5.3 Interest Groups

1. Interest groups (factions / *federalist 10*) are groups trying to influence policy or the votes of the elected officials.
2. Sway the political leadership in order to have their issue heard.
Allow citizens to network, fight common causes, influence government, or help members.
3. The most powerful way interest groups influence government is through the use of **lobbyists** (people who attempt to influence government decisions on behalf of a group).
4. **Testify** – attend meetings, hearings, and bring their bias and points of expertise.
Meet – make personal contacts which are critical to making political arguments.
Research – gather data to sway political leaders with.
Fund – raising and contributing campaign funds.
Litigate – use the courts to attack acts, laws, rules and regulations that they feel are unfair to their group.

Interest Groups

1. What are the main goals of interest groups?
 1. Interest groups attempt to do the following:
 1. Influence public policy
 2. Influence Congress/ the Government
 3. Change laws
2. How do interest groups support political parties?
 2. Interest groups support political parties through the following:
 1. Monetary contributions
 2. Mobilize people
 3. Media campaigns
 4. Give out information
 5. Endorsement/recruitment of candidates
3. How does supporting political parties help interest groups?
 3. It gives interest groups access to policy makers, that chance to have like minded people in office and get legislation passed that helps/supports interest groups.

Popular Lobby Groups

Name	Information
(AARP) American Association of Retired Persons	A very powerful lobbying force for citizens over the age of 55; has tremendous clout on issues such as social security.
(ABA) American Bar Association	Large, well-funded group that represents the legal community.
(ACLU) American Civil Liberties Union	Group of legal experts that focuses on court issues that might change civil rights or civil liberties.
Amnesty International	World wide organization that focuses on human rights issues and political rights abuses.
Chamber of Commerce	Represents communities all across nation; currently represents builders, local industries, and local leaders.
(AFL-CIO) American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations	Headed the labor movement; lobbied for workers rights.
Heritage Foundation	Lobbies Congress in favor of diminished bureaucracy and less government.

Popular Lobby Groups

Name	Information
(MADD) Mothers Against Drunk Driving	Rapidly growing group that lobbies for changes in state laws regarding the penalties for drunk driving.
(NAACP) The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	For over 100 years this group has been the voice on behalf of African Americans in civil rights issues, lawsuits, and debates.
(NRA) National Rifle Association	Focuses on the 2 nd Amendment rights; rich, powerful, conservative, anti-big government.
National Right to Life	Issue-oriented group that seeks to make abortion illegal.
(NOW) National Organization for Women	Supports women's rights and generally takes the liberal position, such as supporting abortion.
(PETA) People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals	PETA tends to be against big business because of its use of animal testing.
Sierra Club	Environmental group that focuses on conservation of wildlife, cleanliness of air and the use of land in the U.S.

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LOBBYISTS
SAY

The Power of the NRA

- <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/gunned-down/>

Bellwork

1. Identify 2 functions of an interest group.
2. Describe how an interest group might achieve their goals. In your description identify and describe two tactics they might employ.

Media Effects

Questions

1. What is the national press?

L5.4: The Media

1. It is a series of news organizations that receives significant attention from politicians and does investigative or interpretive stories.

The wire services (AP)

Time, News Week

The Big 3 (ABC, NBC, CBS)

Cable News Network (CNN)

Fox News Network

Wall Street Journal, USA Today, NY Times, Washington Post.

2. What are the traditional roles of the press?

2. There are 3 traditional roles of the press

Gatekeeper – influences what subjects become national news and for how long.

Scorekeeper – tracks political reputations and candidacies; covers elections.

Watchdog – investigates personalities and exposes scandals.

Questions

3. What are the effects of the media in modern politics?

4. What rules/regulations have been used to control the media?

L5.4: Media

3. Political groups focus more on image, and they attempt to control the image.
- White House staff members shield the president from many questions and control the questions asked, how they are asked, and who asks them.
 - Campaigns and debates are now events that are completely crafted, down to the finest detail.
 - Special media rooms created by Congressional leaders, afford them instantaneous access to news programs.
 - Press conferences are held only when issues can be introduced in a positive manner.
 - The use of the media has created a constant campaign to get elected or reelected.
4. a) Equal access must be provided for all candidates.
b) Rates (cost to air a commercial) must be no higher than the cheapest rate.
c) Debates should include all candidates, but recently the Commission on Presidential Debates only allows major party candidates.

What is “New Media”?

PBS 
**NEWS
HOUR**

PBS 
**NEWS
HOUR**
#PBSNEWS

LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE WAS NAMED AFTER A PHILADELPHIA OUTBREAK IN 1976, WHEN MANY PEOPLE AT A CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DEVELOPED THIS DISEASE.

Media Bias?



L5.1 Assessment: Multiple Choice

1. **Relationships among which of the following exist in political parties?**
 - a. The party and the electorate.
 - b. The party and the individual
 - c. The party and the government
 - d. The party and the candidate
 - e. The party and the courts.
2. **Which of the following translate inputs from the public to outputs from the policymakers?**
 - a. Linkage institutions
 - b. Bureaucratic institutions
 - c. Agenda setters
 - d. Policy setters
 - e. Policy coordinators
3. **Which of the following results after a critical election?**
 - a. Redistricting
 - b. Party realignment
 - c. Party dealignment
 - d. Gerrymandering
 - e. Coalition divisions
4. **Which of the following terms means that people are gradually moving away from both parties?**
 - a. Dealignment
 - b. Realignment
 - c. Gerrymandering
 - d. Reevaluation
 - e. Criticism

1. What is the total number of electoral votes needed to win the presidency?

270

2. This allows nonprofit organizations to collect money and use it for political causes such as TV ads.

527

3. This is the 2nd Tuesday in March and is usually when a clear winner comes to the front.

Super Tuesday

4. Name the 3 types of primaries.

Open, Closed, Blanket

5. This is the political party's set of beliefs on the issues.

Platform

6. This is a group registered with the FEC and used to raise campaign funds.

PACs

7. What is the maximum amount an individual can contribute to a campaign or candidate?

\$2000

8. Mrs. Cleary and several other teachers contribute to their local teachers union. The union then takes a portion of that contribution and allocates it to a candidate of their choice without the teacher's knowledge. This is an example of...?

Bundling

5.2 Assessment: White Board Rally

Directions: Take out your white boards,

markers, and erasers. When a question is

asked, if you know the answer/s then write

them down on the white board and hold up

your response.

Processing FRQ

The media has been described as a powerful force in influencing development of the political agenda of government.

- a) Identify 3 ways in which the president or Congress attempts to control media access and influence.
- b) Explain 2 ways the media appears to have so much influence.