

“It’s election day!” – The U.S. presidential elections 2020

Paul Jenkinson



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Am 3. November 2020 finden die US-Präsidentschafts- und Kongresswahlen statt. Die Ergebnisse werden einen tiefgreifenden Einfluss darauf haben, in welche Richtung die Vereinigten Staaten in Zukunft gehen werden. In dieser Unterrichtsreihe lernen die Schülerinnen und Schüler anhand eines DIN A3 Posters, Texten und eines Videos die Schritte auf dem Weg ins Weiße Haus kennen und verstehen das amerikanische Wahlsystem. Die Lernenden erarbeiten die Parteiprogramme der beiden großen Parteien, lernen wofür die Demokraten und Republikaner stehen und problematisieren die verhältnismäßig große Partei der *nonvoters*. Die Materialien der Reihe fördern interkulturelle Kompetenzen der Schülerinnen und Schüler und ermöglichen ihnen, komplexe Sachverhalte besser zu verstehen und einzuordnen.

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Competences and skills:

The overarching goal of this unit is acquiring **intercultural competences**. To do this, the students practice their **reading** skills as they work with texts and their **viewing and listening** skills as they work with videos. They apply their **analysing, presenting** and **writing** competences as they work with the texts and videos. They frequently work with partners and, thus, develop their **communicative** as well as their **social** competences. By completing various research tasks, they acquire additional **media** competences.

Overview:

List of abbreviations:

A: Text analysis

E: Essay / Composition

PR: Presentation

T: Working with the text

CT: Creative Task

LVC: Listening / viewing comprehension

R: Research

W: Writing

D: Discussion

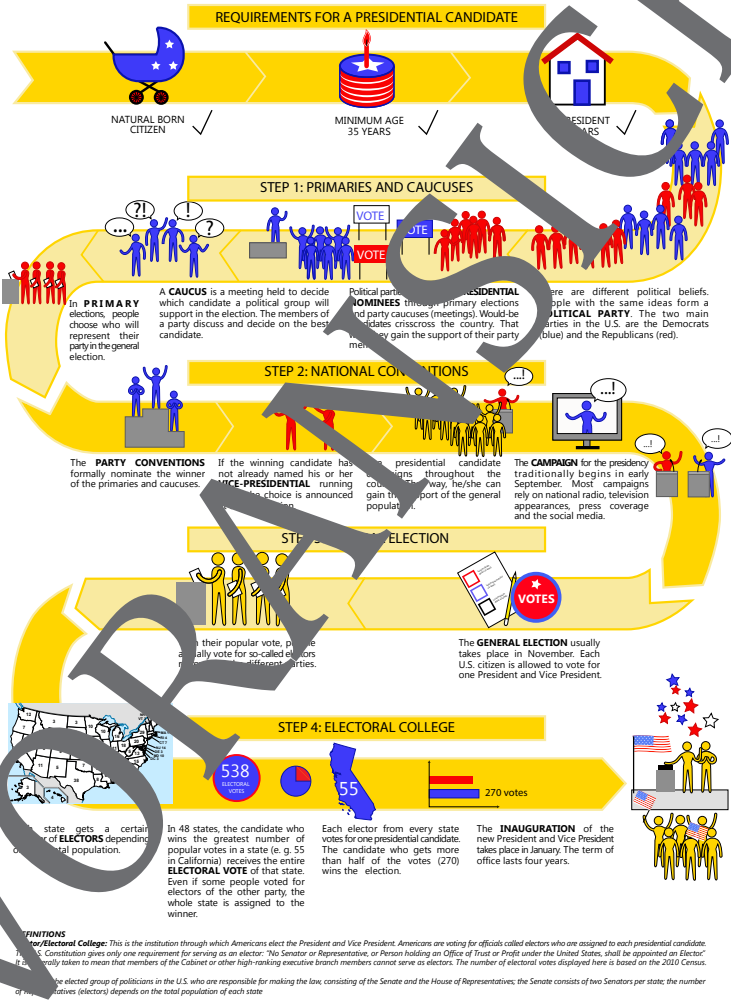
RC: Reading comprehension

Topic	Material	Method / Skills
1: From presidential candidate to president	M1–M3	LV, RC, T, W
2: The main political parties and their respective candidates	M4–M6	A, D, PR, R, RC, W
3: The party of nonvoters	M7–M9	CT, PR, RC, T

Topic 1: From presidential candidate to president

M1 Part A: The road to presidency in the United States

THE ROAD TO **PRESIDENCY** IN THE **UNITED STATES**



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Viewing comprehension



2. Watch the video *Bigger than Trump: John Legend's guide to what matters in the election:*



https://raabe.click/um_en_johnlegend [last access: 16/09/2020]

While watching and listening, tick (✓) whether the statements are true (t), false (f) or not stated (n/s).

Statements	t	f	n/s
a) Civil rights leaders campaigned for more than just freedom of speech.			
b) The Voting Rights Act was implemented 50 years ago.			
c) Only registered house owners can vote in the USA.			
d) Even if you were eligible to vote in the past, you might not be this time.			
e) The underprivileged are among the groups most badly affected.			
f) Legend is not directly concerned about the next presidential election.			
g) There will be discussions held to allow convicts to vote.			
h) 6.1 million African Americans have lost their right to vote.			
i) One day in prison and you are banned from voting.			
j) Some other countries also disqualify ex-prisoners from voting.			
k) John Legend has stayed out of politics.			
l) The police have improved their image.			
m) Electing new leaders in law enforcement can improve communities.			
n) Change can be made from the grassroots.			
o) There remain many basic issues to be addressed in the USA.			

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