Fitzgerald Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thinking About the Election

Topics

* The Electoral College – How does it work? Should we use this system?
* Voting on the Issues
* A Focus on the Issue of Immigration

The Electoral College – How does it work? Should we use this system?

Read the article “The Electoral College” from *Junior Scholastic* September 19, 2016

Answer these questions –

Why do some state have more Electoral votes than others?

How is the number of Electoral votes a state has decided?

Explain the Winner-Take-All rule.

What state has the most Electoral College votes? How many does it have?

Which party is likely to win that states’ votes?

Which party is likely to win the state with the second most electoral votes? How many does it have?

Which party is likely to win that states’ votes?

Which swing state has the most Electoral College votes?

How many votes must a candidate win to win the election? Why is this the number needed?

What will happen if no candidate wins that number of votes?

(over)

The Electoral College – How does it work? Should we use this system? – Continued

Mark the statements on the Chart “Fact” or “Opinion.”

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement** | **Fact?** | **Opinion?** |
| All state but two have a “Winner-Take-All” rule for allotting its votes to either candidate. |  |  |
| The Electoral College System is confusing. |  |  |
| California has too many votes. |  |  |
| The number of members a state has in the House of Representatives is based on that states population, so the number of Electoral College Votes a state has is, too. |  |  |
| Citizens should be able to vote directly for the president. |  |  |

Read the article “Should We Elect the President by Popular Vote?” in *Junior Scholastic* September 19, 2016.

Identify a central idea of the “Yes” side of the debate. Write it below.

Identify two facts used by the “Yes” side and two opinions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Facts | Opinions |
| 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |

Identify a central idea of the “No” side of the debate. Write it below.

Identify two facts used by the “No” side and two opinions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Facts | Opinions |
| 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. |

Below state which side of this debate you find more convincing and explain why.

(next page)

A Focus on the Issue of Immigration

Read the article “The Long Fight Over Immigration” in *Junior Scholastic* September 19, 2016.

Why do you think the article opens with two photos from different times?

Why does Donald Trump’s stand on immigration “strike a chord” with some Americans?

Why are other Americans opposed to Mr. Trump’s ideas about immigration?

Based on the “Immigrants Then and Now” graphic on p. 16, what can you say about the difference between foreign-born Americans in 1960 and in 2014?

Complete the chart below using the Chart “Coming to America” in the article.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Immigrant Group | Reason Immigrated | Number who Arrived |
| Irish |  |  |
| Chinese |  |  |
| Italians |  |  |
| Jews |  |  |
| Mexicans |  |  |
| Vietnamese |  |  |

What main idea of the article does this chart support?

Examine the two political cartoons.

What concern does the top cartoon reflect?

What concern does the bottom cartoon reflect?

(over)

Read the introduction to and then the excerpt from “A Letter from Benjamin Franklin to Peter Collinson, May 9, 1753.”

List three concerns/complaints Benjamin franklin makes about concerning the German immigrants to the colony of Pennsylvania. Give the direct quote and then put it in your own words.

Concern/Complaint

|  |
| --- |
| Direct Quote |
| In my own words |

Concern/Complaint

|  |
| --- |
| Direct Quote |
| In my own words |

Concern/Complaint

|  |
| --- |
| Direct Quote |
| In my own words |