

The Election Day

1. Intro : you've already worked about the presidential election in the USA, especially during your English lessons... So : Brain storming, right now !

Keywords

<p>Democrats The Democrat Party Republicans The republican Party GOP : Grand Old Party : Parti Républicain HRC : Human rights Campaign http://www.hrc.org/ Constitutionnal : constitutionnel Leader, ruler : dirigeant Left winger / right winger : H ou F de gauche / de droite Progressivism : parti du progrès Radicalism : extrémisme Tycoon : magnat, riche homme d'affaires Center : le Centre Conservatism : conservatisme Reactionary : réactionnaire Hardline : jusqueboutisme A hardliner : un jusqueboutiste A head of State : un/e chef/fe de l'Etat Participatory democracy : démocratie participative Democratic process : processus démocratique The separation of powers : la séparation des pouvoirs The Fourth Power : le quatrième pouvoir (les médias) To be in power : être au pouvoir To seize : to take power : prendre le pouvoir To seek legitimacy : chercher une légitimité To bend the rules : enfreindre les règles To threaten / to jeopardize / endanger democracy : menacer la démocratie Middle of the road : centriste Political spectrum : scène politique Establishment : establishment (les notables, l'élite) Outsider : non-initié, exclu, celui / celle qu'on attendait pas Orator : orateur To vote : voter A vote : un vote, une voix Voting : le scrutin, le vote The turn out : la participation To abstain : être abstentionniste To elect : élire To rig : truquer les élections Outcome : résultat Swing to the Left / Right : virage à gauche / droite To win : gagner The roling party : le pari au pouvoir To reach a deadlock : aboutir à une impasse To nuance / soften an opinion : nuancer une opinion To toughen an opinion : durcir une opinion Election promises / manifesto promises : promesses électorale Motto : devise, slogan, leitmotiv The run up for the election : période électorale To go to the polls : aller voter Polling day : jour du vote Polling place / station : bureau de vote Polling booth : isoloir Ballot paper : bulletin de vote</p>	<p>Ballot box : urne Competitor : concurrent/e Opponent : opposant Challenger : rival/e Address : faire un discours to take a lead in polls : prendre la tête des sondages Of all stripes : de tout bord Divide and rule : diviser pour mieux régner a policy : une politique to join : adhérer à a supporter, a follower : un/e partisan/ne a proponent : un/e adepte a row / a controversy : une polémique to question : remettre en question, mettre en doute franchise : droit de vote to enfranchise / to disfranchise : accorder / retirer le droit de vote to register : s'inscrire a referendum to run for the (Presidential Election) : se présenter à l'élection présidentielle candidacy : candidature to contest a seat : se présenter à une élection platform : programme électoral to campaign / to canvas : faire campagne a constituent : un/e électeur /trice to survey : faire une étude to poll : sonder l'opinion a voteloser vs. a votewinner : un handicap électoral vs. un atout électoral to woo voters : courtiser les électeurs slogan : slogan poster : affiche billboards : panneaux d'affichage a rallye : meeting de campagne funds : fonds, financement de la campagne primaries : primaires alt-right : a segment of right-wing ideologies that reject mainstream conservatism in the United States. t is largely Internet-based and found on websites such as 4chan and 8chan, where anonymous members create and use Internet memes to express themselves. The "Deplorables" : les "Lamentables", nom que se sont donnés certains supporters de Trump, d'après une remarque de Clinton dans une interview. (« you could put half of Trump's supporters into what I call the basket of deplorables. They're racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamaphobic. H. Clinton » Endorse / endorsment : approuver / approbation Populist : populiste Tea Party : an American political movement known for its conservative positions and its role in the Republican Party. Backlash : réaction brutale de rejet Proposal : proposition Pundits : experts ; commentateurs Repeal : abroger</p>
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2. Now, these are some extracts from the 2 candidates' platforms. But they are mixed up ! Imagine you support this idea...whose cheerleader are you ? Why ?

- Read it aloud
- Explain which candidate could have made such a proposal

3. Let's watch the Jon Cozart video "Politiclash".

- Fill in the blanks by listening carefully the lyrics
- Why is there a third character ? Who is he ? Why has he been so important in the campaign ?

4. Summary

There are two main political parties in the United States of America : the Democrat Party and the Republican Party (even if a "third party" has been emerging for a decade, including the Liberian Party, the Green Party, and a few others).

Traditionnaly, Democrats and Republicans disagree about the State intervention in the economy and society.

Democrats endorse a larger role of the State in the economy and society. They think that the federal government has to provide (and fund) a part of the Americans' social security, health and education spendings. In other words, Democrats try to defend the welfare state.

On the other hand, the GOP is quite more conservative and mindful of individual rights and civil liberties.

They endorse a fully market economy (with a minimum state intervention), so that people have to self-fund their health and education spendings with their savings.

But Donald Trump isn't totally representative of the mainstream Republicans. Actually this wealthy tycoon (his wealth is estimated to be worth some 4 billions \$) brought populist ideas in the 2016 campaign, such as

- building a wall between the US and Mexico
- temporary banning the Muslims from the US
- Women bashing...

Nethertheless, his economical proposals are fully in the line with the Republican platform, and can be summarized in a few words :

- tax cuts
- fewer civil servants
- a full market economy.

This is how he succeeded in persuading angry working class communities, who feel their view on immigration and globalization had been ignored for too long by what they regard as a self-serving political elite.

That's why poll companies are failing to give the winner's name of 2016 presidential (just as they did for the Brexit in the UK). All will depend on the previous non voting, especially numerous in the blue-collar : they could turn out to be new voters on 8 November... Who will they vote for ?

5. Test yourself on Socrative X3UDIZKH

6. Vote now ! <https://fr.surveymonkey.com/r/2WGGV68>

Hillary Clinton's platform : "stronger together"

"Hillary For America" "Fighting for us" "I'm With Her"

- Reduce the income inequality in the United States
- universal pre-kindergarten (preschool)
- paid family leave
- equal pay for women
- college affordability
- provide incentives for companies that provide profit sharing to employees, communities and environment
- current negotiations about free-trade agreements should be abandoned unless improved (Trans-Pacific Partnership :TPP)
- raising middle class incomes
- expanding women's rights
- instituting campaign finance reform
- improving the Affordable Care Act
- inclusive capitalism
- place an "exit tax" on companies that move their headquarters out of America in order to pay a lower tax rate overseas
- support the right to same-sex marriage enshrined in the constitution
- allowing undocumented immigrants to have a path to citizenship
- support for Common Core State Standards (a kind of nationwide network in Education –skills, contents, in order to reduce the inequalities between pupils, because the contents are mainly more demanding than before)
- plans for regulating Wall Street
- supports the HRC : Human Rights Campaign, including the LGBT rights
- endorses the guns control (*"I believe weapons of war have no place on our streets. We may have our disagreements on gun safety regulations, but we should all be able to agree on a few things. If the FBI is watching you for suspected terrorist links, you shouldn't be able to just go buy a gun with no questions asked. You shouldn't be able to exploit loopholes and evade criminal background checks by buying online or at a gun show. And yes, if you're too dangerous to get on a plane, you are too dangerous to buy a gun in America".* Hillary Clinton, June 13, 2016)

Donald Trump's platform : "Make America great again"

- opposed to illegal immigration :
- solve the issues of immigration and border security, thanks to the deportation of all illegal immigrants and the construction of a substantial wall on the Mexico–United States border at Mexican expense
- trade protectionism : he is opposed to different free-trade agreements (TPP)
- asserts he speaks especially in the name of white blue-collar voters and voters without college degree
- disdain for what he considers to be Political Correctness
- endorses the "pro-life" ideas
- against guns-control
- deal with domestic issues rather than foreign ones
- fight against offshoring of American jobs
- fight against the Islamic terrorism by a "temporary Muslim ban" proposal
- reduce the debt
- refuse the money from donors and lobbyists to fund his campaign
- "Americanism, not globalism, will be our credo."
- described himself as a "law and order" candidate and "the voice" of "the forgotten men and women."
- raising of tariffs
- repeal of the Obama Care
- repeal nearly all the financial regulation
- additional spending for defense and infrastructure
- income tax cuts : he wants to cap the federal personal income tax at a maximum rate of 20% instead of 39.6% today
- cap the dividends' and capital gains' tax at a maximum rate of 20% (An analysis by Citizens for Tax Justice found that under Trump's plan, the poorest 20% of Americans would see a tax cut averaging \$250, middle-income Americans would see a tax cut averaging just over \$2,500, and the best-off 1% of Americans would see a tax cut averaging over \$227,000)
- give the Congress the power to control the interest rate in order to raise it
- proposes that colleges share the cost of studies
- health care funded by a "free market system"
- combat both legal pornography and illegal pornography
- reduce the number of public workers
- opposed to the idea of gun control

Bernie Sanders” platform : "A Future To Believe In"

- describes himself as a “democratic socialist”
- admires the the Nordic model and its welfare state
- wants to fight the increasing wealth inequality in the United States
- supports repeal of some of the tax deductions that benefit corporations, and would raise taxes on capital gains and the wealthiest one percent of Americans.
- Supports regulation of the markets, especially of financial markets
- Wants to promote the creation of millions of middle-class jobs by investing in infrastructure
- Wants to transform the USA’s energy system away from fossil fuel
- Would like to make campaign finances more transparent, with a reduced risk of corruption
- Wants to reduce the surveillance carried out by the NSA, that threatens the American citizens’ liberties
- is in favor of public funding for college students (tuition-free universities)
- is in favor of a universal health care system
- is a strong opponent of the death penalty

"Politclash" by Jon Cozart - Lyrics

[Hillary Clinton:]

Hi, Hillary here, woman up
Been in power for many a year
Spent a decade or three in political spheres
You say I'm just first lady, you're killin me here

Strolling up to the Whitehouse, I never forget
The smell of carpe diem carpet bombs and **ceiling the debt**
Back when I operated Bill like a marionett
Sporting Gepetto stilettos **taking on ghettos and terror threats**

Then real boy toyed with the wrong brunette
Pinocchioing poking around to get his wood wet
Still eight years running, didn't break a sweat
Left with my head on my shoulders, I'm no Marie Antoinette

My speed is breakneck, take checks, won't apologize for the upset
Didn't die with my man, this ain't no Romeo, Juliet
Mama's back for the votes, just call me suffragette
Forget Bill, I'm an à la carte oligarch and I'm crushing it

Hi, Clinton is back, suit up
In a pants suit and on the attack,
Brute up
Protecting people from here to Iraq
Gonna pick up that torch from Barack

You can sing hallelujah, but I'm too much to handle
Forget Shonda Rhymes, I invented the scandal
Benghazi Nazi paparazzi come and stir up another fuss
Call TIME magazine, I'm the queen of the cover ups
Gonna kick ass and take blames, **upper class**, I'll take aim
Put Bernie in an urn and fight the fanboy fanned flames

I'm hyper activist, the lion, elephant's nemesis
An emotional strategist, black mamba, I'm venomous
Wrathful warrior pacifist, channel Yahweh in Genesis
I'm the gaudiest godliest godless **minimal feminist**
I'm HRC, new election, new me
All hail the female in 2016

[Donald Trump:]

So we're supposed to elect you just because you're a woman
You're less likable than **Cruz**, and he looks like a melting
snowman
Such excitement for indictment, this email thing's a bad **omen**
Getting cold, better run to Putin before you get Snowden

Don't be alarmed, it's just me, **the real Donald Trump**
I'm here to smear to give your ladies and your ratings a bump
You pumped? **I'm the buyer's choice to make America great again**
Mission's simple: give permission to let Americans hate again

"After many months of careful consideration, of prayer and searching my own conscience, I have decided that on Election Day, I will vote for the Republican nominee, Donald Trump," Cruz wrote in a Facebook post.

Chris Christie is a Republican politician. In May 2016, Trump named Christie to head the transition team preparing for a potential Trump administration.

Speaking of which, **Obama's a Muslim, talk about foreign aid**
Where was he born? Africa? I popped out in suede
And hey, when life gave me millions, I made billionaide
Best served on ice with a plate of Barack O'BBQ in the shade

Took my casino earnings, brought some cash to the party
Just spent a weekend at Bernie's, now we're crashing the parties
Poaching establishment voters on a Ferrari safari
Talkin a big game sipping on some fascist Bacardi

Jk, I don't drink, **I have self control**
Unless you're not white, Rosie O'Donnel, or an internet troll

Blew up Republican politics like the law was Sharia
Made **Chris Christie** my bitchie
Turned Carson into Madea
Ted held hands with Fiorina while my fans filled arenas
Poor bruised abused **Cruz**, I stole his role in God's Not Dead 3-uh

Bernie, baby, take notes from a true inside outsider
You're a dumbfounded dumb founder of a movement that
floundered
Your camp can riot at my rallies but don't show up to fight
Things get messy when teens start exercising their rights

[Bernie Sanders:]

So you're worth millions, well I'm a meme, that's my net worth
I'm set, working the net, go on and keep your networks
I'm gonna polarize ya, pulverize ya, separate the truth from lies
Can't stop the young people, Bernie's gonna youthenize ya

I'm new and old fashioned, hi, I'm Bernie Sanders
I came from the streets of Brooklyn to be your chief commander
I meander gerrymandering and slander from a witch
Which, by the by, is why **I pitched a campaign for the no-rich niche**
Funded by Americans, Bernie's super PAC-less
No corruption, no greed
I'm like a shamwow, no mess

Hit the campaign trail with black sails
Eff the police I'm freeing the black males
Stall white collar low ballers from tipping cash to tip the scales
Gonna fill the jails with laymen, Hope their souls are worth the savings
Misbehave in the Caymens,
Trump, you're gonna go to hell for your havens, oh boy
Hey Satan, is this seat taken? **America's gotta white-collar cravin**
I'm the second most popular socialist Jew gettin praised in this nation

If ya got a couple millions, you'll be revolushunned
I got 99 problems, but my percent ain't 1

Rosie O'Donnel is an American humorist who has been humiliated by Trump in a TV Show. Madonna twweeted her defence.

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