

Election! 2020 Home Learning Plan

March 30 – April 3

Goal: Create Research Presentation

We have a new unit, and it's all about the election. How will this thing be decided? Why does it matter? This week, what we're going to do is look at the overview of the assessment, then dive into the political issues upon which this year's election may hang (though I have to say, I haven't adapted this material for Coronavirus yet, and it's obvious the political impact is fairly significant...maybe we'll get to that in the coming weeks). For now, there's a new routine to settle into, as described below:

Resources

Unit 2 Overview can be found in the Home Learning Week 3 section for this class

Task #1 (Monday) Overview and Election Basics

Read the Overview, then Watch the Video in the Day 1 Section and answer questions. Then find out which *real live politician* you are going to pretend to work for! You're going to have to do some internet research, but it's the informal kind, so no need to document your sources for now!

Task #2: (Tuesday) Taxes and Spending

Only one question today, but lots of short videos to watch.

Task #3 (Thursday): Universal Health Care

Only one video today, but lots of questions! Be sure to check out the supplemental material I've included in addition to the video if you want more information on this subject!

Task #4 (Friday): Immigration

Two videos today and lots of questions *and* a bunch of supplemental stuff to look at. These are rich topics! Have fun and learn things!

My goal is to have as many research projects as I can fully assessed by Monday the 6th, so if you've revised some part of your earlier work, please mark the revision so I know to look at it!

Random Nerdy Civics Fact So you know how when a bill raises revenue it has to start in the house? And you know how in order to pass a bill needs to be voted on in both houses and needs a quorum? Well, in Congress right now, they just past a \$2 Trillion bill that started in the *Senate*, which isn't ever supposed to happen! In order to make that work, the House had to pass what's called a "shell bill" which means a bill with nothing in it that can be amended later, like a blank scrabble tile except for laws instead of letters. So anyway, after much sturm and drang the Senate passed the giant economy-saving bill, but it had to go to a House vote before it could take effect, except nobody wanted to do that because just the process of passing it in the Senate ended up with 5 senators in quarantine for coronavirus. So there's a way the House can pass a bill without anyone having to actually go to the Capitol Building, which is called Unanimous Consent, in which essentially everyone says they think the bill is a good idea so fine, let's pass it...but *everyone* has to agree. And in this case, one dude, Thomas Massie, a Republican from Kentucky, objected, forcing everyone to get together and expose themselves to possible infection, and causing former Senator and Secretary of State John Kerry to tweet that "Congressman Massie has tested positive for being an [expletive deleted]. He must be quarantined to prevent the spread of his massive stupidity."

Ha! Have a great week, everyone!