

Sample Pages from

Elections in America

by Charlene Notgrass

Copyright © Notgrass Company.
All rights reserved.

To order your copy visit www.notgrass.com
or call 1-800-211-8793.

Elections in America

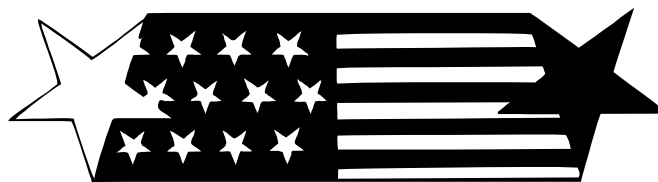


Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
-------------------	---

Part One: Voting in America

Unit 1

Lesson 1 – What is Voting?.....	6
Lesson 2 – Voter Registration.....	7
Lesson 3 – Can Voters Vote in Any Election?.....	8
Lesson 4 – The Right to Vote in Elections.....	10
Lesson 5 – Bible Study: The Israelites Choose Officials.....	11

Unit 2

Lesson 6 – Bible Study: The Pursuit of Wisdom.....	13
Lesson 7 – Suffrage for Women.....	14
Lesson 8 – Suffrage for African Americans.....	16
Lesson 9 – Suffrage for Immigrants.....	18
Lesson 10 – Suffrage for Native Americans.....	20

Unit 3

Lesson 11 – Suffrage for Eighteen Year Olds.....	22
Lesson 12 – Bible Study: Responsibilities of Youth.....	23
Lesson 13 – Going to the Polls.....	24
Lesson 14 – Voting Technology.....	26
Lesson 15 – Voting Early and by Mail.....	28

Unit 4

Lesson 16 – Voter Turnout.....	31
Lesson 17 – Thoughts on Voting from Samuel Adams.....	32
Lesson 18 – Ballot Access.....	34
Lesson 19 – A Sample City Ballot.....	35
Lesson 20 – The Timing of Federal Elections	36

Unit 5

Lesson 21 – Bible Study: The Importance of Accuracy.....	39
Lesson 22 – Counting Votes.....	40
Lesson 23 – Electoral Votes.....	42
Lesson 24 – Members of the Electoral College Cast Their Votes.....	44
Lesson 25 – Receiving Election News.....	46

Part Two: American Politics

Unit 6

Lesson 26 – Political Parties.....	49
Lesson 27 – America’s First Two-Party System: Federalists and Democratic-Republicans.....	50
Lesson 28 – America’s Second Two-Party System: Whigs and Democrats.....	51
Lesson 29 – America’s Third Two-Party System: Democrats and Republicans.....	52
Lesson 30 – A History of the Democratic Party.....	53

Unit 7

Lesson 31 – A History of the Republican Party.....	55
Lesson 32 – Third Parties in the 1800s.....	56
Lesson 33 – The Progressive Parties.....	57
Lesson 34 – Third Parties in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century.....	58
Lesson 35 – Active Third Parties in the Twenty-First Century.....	59

Unit 8

Lesson 36 – Choosing a Party’s Candidates.....	61
Lesson 37 – Political Conventions.....	64
Lesson 38 – The Political Party Platform.....	66
Lesson 39 – Bible Study: The Importance of Truth.....	67
Lesson 40 – Debates.....	68

Unit 9

Lesson 41 – Campaign Finance.....	71
Lesson 42 – Traveling to Campaign for President.....	72
Lesson 43 – Campaign Appearances.....	74
Lesson 44 – A Candidate’s Family.....	76
Lesson 45 – Bible Study: A Person of Integrity.....	77

Unit 10

Lesson 46 – Controversial Issues: Age and Faith.....	79
Lesson 47 – Bible Study: Respect for Old Age.....	80

Lesson 48 – Elections and the Military.....	81
Lesson 49 – Special Interests.....	82
Lesson 50 – Bible Study: Standing Up for Principles.....	83

Unit 11

Lesson 51 – Advertising on Paper.....	85
Lesson 52 – Campaign Buttons and Ribbons.....	86
Lesson 53 – Campaign Bumper Stickers.....	87
Lesson 54 – More Political and Campaign Stuff.....	88
Lesson 55 – Presidential Symbols and Slogans	90

Unit 12

Lesson 56 – Campaign Volunteers and Staff.....	92
Lesson 57 – Bible Study: A Good Name.....	93
Lesson 58 – Print Media.....	94
Lesson 59 – Electronic Media and Elections.....	96
Lesson 60 – Bible Study: Trusting in God.....	98

Part Three: A History of American Elections

Unit 13

Lesson 61 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1788-1803.....	100
Lesson 62 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1804-1823.....	103
Lesson 63 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1824-1839.....	106
Lesson 64 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1840-1855.....	109
Lesson 65 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1856-1867.....	112

Unit 14

Lesson 66 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1868-1883.....	117
Lesson 67 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1884-1903.....	120
Lesson 68 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1904-1919.....	123
Lesson 69 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1920-1935.....	126
Lesson 70 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1936-1955.....	129

Unit 15

Lesson 71 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1956-1971.....	134
Lesson 72 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1972-1983.....	137
Lesson 73 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 1984-1999.....	141
Lesson 74 – A Timeline of Federal Elections: 2000-2007.....	144
Lesson 75 – The 2008 Presidential Election	147

Illustration Credits and Identification of Front Cover Images.....	150
--	-----

Lesson 2

Voter Registration

When a person goes to the polls to vote in an election, voting officials need to make sure that the person is eligible to vote. They also need to make sure that the person only votes one time. One way to do this is to require that voters register with the local government.

The first state to require its citizens to register was Massachusetts in 1800. After the Civil War, many states began to register voters. The main reason for the change was to make elections more honest. Many city governments were corrupt. Some people voted more than once. Sometimes votes were even cast in the names of people who had died! Registration is an attempt to keep these abuses from happening.

Even today, some states only require voters to register if they live in a large city. In most places, a voter registers just one time and does not have to do so again unless he or she has changed names (as when a woman gets married) or changed addresses. However, some places, especially cities, require voters to reregister periodically so that their list of voters stays accurate and up to date.

Registration policies vary from state to state and from city to city. Many places try to make voter registration easy by putting applications in libraries, county election offices, and post offices. Some states require voters to register as many as 30 days before an election, but in Minnesota voters can register and vote on election day.



The caption of this illustration from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, Volume 55, 1882 reads: "New York City -- President Arthur Registering as a Voter at the Registration Office, No. 402 Third Avenue."

Lesson 25

Receiving Election News

When George Washington became the first President in 1789, newspapers reported it, but the fastest way to transport the newspapers over land was by horse. Therefore, it took weeks before some citizens were able to learn the news.

As new technologies were invented, election news traveled faster. When the first commercial radio station, KDKA, began in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1920, its first broadcast announced that Warren G. Harding and his running mate Calvin Coolidge had defeated their opponents, Democrats James Cox and Franklin Roosevelt. Today a voter can receive election results on the Internet, on television, or on radio. Satellites beam the news across the world in seconds. When Barak Obama chose Joe Biden as his running mate in 2008, he sent out the news by text messaging to cell phones.



Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower Watching Television During the Republican National Convention in Chicago in July 1952



In the 1892 presidential election, the New York Herald used a searchlight at Madison Square Garden to tell the news to New Yorkers that Cleveland had won.



*This New York City crowd has just received results of the presidential election by telegram. Buchanan won. Notice the telegraph office in the center of the picture.
Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, November 15, 1856.*



Table in the home of President Warren G. Harding where he heard election results.



When William McKinley was elected in 1900, residents of large cities could learn election results on the streets. News organizations projected slides onto buildings. In Chicago, residents learned the results by color-coded fireworks!

Lesson 37

Political Conventions



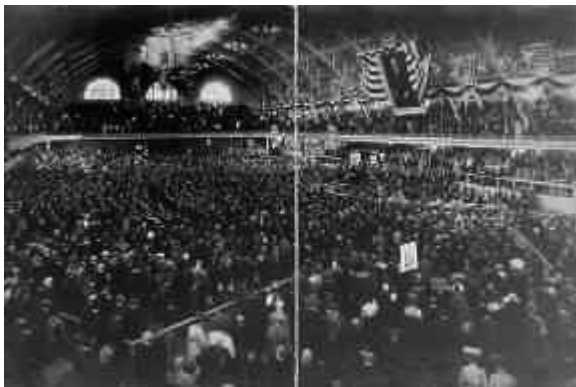
Delegates Arriving at the Republican Convention in Chicago, 1868, Harper's Weekly, Illustration by W.B. Baird



Democratic National Convention in Session in Tammany Hall in New York, 1868, Harper's Weekly, Illustration by Theodore R. Davis

A political convention is a gathering of members of a political party. At the national conventions, party members listen to speeches, finalize their party platform, and officially nominate their candidates for President and Vice President.

Democrats and Republicans hold their national conventions in the summer before a November presidential election. Democrats held their first national convention in 1832, and Republicans held their first in 1856. Both major parties receive money from the Federal government to help pay for their conventions. In 2004, the



Opening Prayer at Republican National Convention, 1904



Democratic Nominee Jimmy Carter with Daughter Amy and Wife Rosalyn at Democratic National Convention, New York City, 1976



Balloon Drop at Republican National Convention, Kansas City, 1976.



Delegates at the Republican National Convention, Kansas City, 1976



Gerald and Betty Ford celebrate his nomination as the Republican presidential candidate at the Republican Convention in Kansas City, 1976.

amount for each party was \$14,924,000. To people watching on television, conventions look like big parties, with lots of celebrating with flags, balloons, and speeches. In addition to the public activities, party leaders gather in private meetings to plan ways to win the upcoming election.

The main purpose of the convention is to choose the official candidates for President and Vice President. This is done by having roll call votes. States are called alphabetically and their chairpersons announce the vote for their state. After the presidential candidate is officially chosen, the vice presidential candidate is nominated. Today the presidential candidate's choice of a running mate is announced before the convention is held. The presidential candidate chooses his own Vice President, but he is greatly influenced by party leaders who want him to choose someone who will help win votes. During the convention, the presidential candidate gives an acceptance speech. The first candidate to give an acceptance speech at a convention was Franklin Roosevelt in 1932. Today it is a highlight of the

convention. In 1924, radio stations began broadcasting the Democratic and Republican conventions. Now they are covered extensively on television and the Internet.

Lesson 51

Advertising on Paper

Though William Henry Harrison was born into wealth, his campaign organizers invented the idea of his having a humble beginning. Editor Horace Greeley printed a newspaper in support of Harrison. It was called *The Log Cabin*.

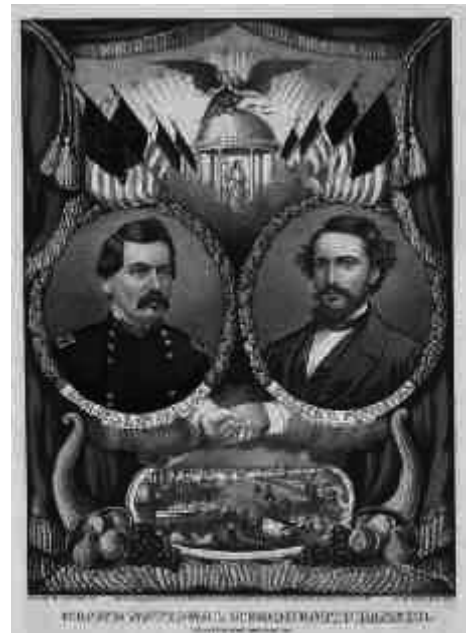
People have found many ways to advertise on paper. They have made posters, brochures, letters, postcards, and booklets. Modern candidates often write a book about themselves or hire an author to do so for them.

Early candidates had elaborate campaign posters. Advertising agencies today would find them too “busy,” since ads are expected to be clear and simple. Reflecting the more modern style, Democrat Walter Mondale’s solid blue brochure from 1984 proclaimed in white letters: “Walter Mondale: The experience to know what needs to change. The strength to make it happen.”

A look back at print advertisements reveals what Americans were concerned about at the time

of a particular election. Dwight Eisenhower’s campaign had a brochure entitled, “Ike Says This About Communism.”

John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon both used brochures to reach out to special interest groups. Kennedy brochures included these: “Worried About Old Age? Kennedy for President” and “For the West, For America, Kennedy for President.” The Nixon campaign had brochures entitled: “Foreign Policy,” “Economic Leadership,” “Health Care,” “The Record,” “Vietnam,” “Education,” “Environment,” “Black Americans,” and “Young Voters.”



This “Grand National Democratic Banner” promises “Peace! Union! And Victory!” It promoted General George B. McClellan, who ran against Abraham Lincoln.



The tag on Taft’s lapel says, “Good Times.”



Lesson 2

Voter Registration



A Sample Voter Registration Card

When citizens register to vote, they may receive a voter registration card that looks something like this one, which has been enlarged to show detail.

Look at your parent's card and fill out the blank card as if it were your own. Choose a date after your 18th birthday as the date on which you are "duly registered." In some places the election official is called the "Registrar At Large," but this is not necessarily the case everywhere.

STATE OF MARYLAND		0067843	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	
<u>LINCOLN</u>	COUNTY		645-98-9731	
VOTER REGISTRATION CARD			DOB: 07-15-90	
JOHN M. DOE 618 MEMORY LANE ANYTOWN, MD 16428				
WARD OR COUNCIL	VOTING	HOUSE	SENATE	
DISTRICT 002	PRECINCT 0007	DISTRICT 011	DISTRICT 04	
WAS DULY REGISTERED ON THE 17TH DAY OF JUL 2008 AND IS ENTITLED TO VOTE ON AND AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF THIS CARD, PROVIDED THE REGISTRATION HAS NOT BECOME VOID.				
JOHN WITHERSPOON SCHOOL				
VOTING LOCATION				
<u>John M. Doe</u>			<u>Constance P. Smith</u>	
VOTER'S SIGNATURE			REGISTRAR AT LARGE	

STATE OF _____		0067843	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	
_____	COUNTY		_____	
VOTER REGISTRATION CARD			DOB: _____	
_____ _____ _____				
WARD OR COUNCIL	VOTING	HOUSE	SENATE	
DISTRICT ____	PRECINCT ____	DISTRICT ____	DISTRICT ____	
WAS DULY REGISTERED ON THE ____ DAY OF _____ AND IS ENTITLED TO VOTE ON AND AFTER THE ISSUANCE OF THIS CARD, PROVIDED THE REGISTRATION HAS NOT BECOME VOID.				
VOTING LOCATION				
VOTER'S SIGNATURE			REGISTRAR AT LARGE	

Lesson 2 Review

Complete the following statements:

1. The address of the registration office in the picture is _____

2. The President who is pictured registering to vote is _____
3. Voter registration helps election officials determine whether a voter is _____
4. The first state to require voter registration was _____
5. One reason registration began is because some city governments were _____



Lesson 25

Receiving Election News



Learning from Illustrations in Lesson 25

Look at the illustrations in Lesson 25 to find out how people learned election news.

Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower _____

New Yorkers in 1892 when Cleveland won _____

New Yorkers in 1856 when Buchanan won _____

Chicago residents in 1900 when McKinley won _____

Residents of other major cities in 1900 when McKinley won _____

Look at the table in President Harding's home. How do you imagine that he heard the news at this table? _____

Unit 5 Review

Answer these questions.

1. In 1789, what was the fastest way to transport newspapers?
2. In what city did the first commercial radio station, KDKA, begin?
3. The first broadcast of the first commercial radio station announced the triumph of which Presidential candidate?
4. What technology did Barak Obama use in 2008 when he sent out the news of his vice presidential running mate?
5. What other communication technologies do today's voters use to receive election results?
6. To Whom do a just balance and scales belong?
7. What two things are abominable to the Lord?
8. What must be counted after any election?
9. What is the special American method of electing a President called?
10. The number of votes cast in support of a Presidential candidate is called what?
11. Which three American Presidents became President without winning the popular vote?
12. In what month does the Electoral College meet?
13. In what month are Electoral College votes counted by Congress?
14. The number of electoral votes that a state has is equal to the number of its what?



Lesson 37

Political Conventions



Planning a Political Convention

Imagine that you are on the planning committee for a major party political convention. Make a list of tasks that need to be done and a list of items you would need.

Tasks to Do

Items Needed

Lesson 37 Review

Complete these sentences.

1. A national gathering of members of a political party is called a
2. At the national conventions, party members listen to
3. At a political convention, the party's candidates for President and Vice President are officially
4. Democrats held their first national convention in
5. Republicans held their first national convention in
6. To help pay for their conventions, both major parties receive money from the
7. The celebrations with flags, balloons, and speeches make political conventions look like big
8. The official choosing of the candidates for President and Vice President is done during a

9. During the roll call, states are called upon
10. The presidential candidate chooses his own
11. After the selection of candidates, the presidential candidate gives an
12. The first candidate to give an acceptance speech at a convention was



Lesson 51

Advertising on Paper



Designing Campaign Advertisements

Draw a campaign poster, using colored pencils.

Lesson 51 Review

Choose from these words to fill in the blanks below.

BOOK PRINT NEWSPAPER PAPER POSTERS

1. Though William Henry Harrison was born into wealth, editor Horace Greeley printed a _____ supporting Harrison and called it *The Log Cabin*.
2. People have found many ways to advertise on _____ , including posters, brochures, letters, postcards, and booklets.
3. Modern candidates often write a _____ about themselves or hire an author to do so for them.
4. Early candidates had elaborate campaign _____ .
5. A look back at _____ advertisements reveals what Americans were concerned about at the time of a particular election.