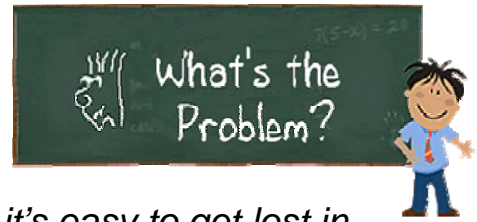


Teacher Instructions:



Problem Scenario: *The Election: in simple terms*

The Main Problem: *When a major election gets close, it's easy to get lost in the political issues, poll numbers, and campaign ads. Of course, an election is simply the way we peacefully transfer power in our American democracy. How should this complicated process be presented to young people so that they understand the basics of our electoral process?*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



How can we explain the "election"?

Students will review the overall purpose and structure of a presidential (or local) election and decide on the best way to explain those concepts.

Step 1

**Review
Stimulus
Items**

Stimulus Item #1 — "American Democracy" (2-minute video)

Stimulus Item #2— "Our Electoral Process" (article)

Stimulus Item #3— "Text Features in Non-Fiction" (pictorial)

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step 2

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Step 3

**Student
Response**

Extended Responses: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

1. **What are the key elements of our electoral process that everyone should know, even at an early age?**
2. **If your goal is to teach a young student about America's electoral process, what would be the best strategy? What types of materials would be needed?**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional): Divide students into small groups, and have each group **write a short children's book** or **user-friendly pamphlet** that is designed to teach young students about our electoral process. The groups must decide on the key features that should be highlighted, as well as the best way to present the material. Have the rest of the class play the role of a publisher of children's books, and the class can vote on which group's book would be worth publishing.

Step 4

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.