

# Chapter 5

## Section 1: Parties and What They Do

**Guiding Question:** What are political parties, and how do they function in our two-party system?

### GET STARTED

#### Lesson Goals:

- Students will understand what a political party is and how it functions.
- Students will differentiate among two-party, multiparty, and one-party systems.

**Bellringer** Write the words *Democrat* and *Republican* on the board along with these instructions: **In your notebooks, write words or ideas that you associate with each of these labels.**

### TEACH

Discuss the Bellringer. Then tell students that in this section they will learn about political parties and political party systems. Point out that although there are only two major parties in the United States, there have been a number of minor political parties, including the Green Party, the Progressive Party, and the American Independent Party. Then ask students to read the section to learn more about political parties.

#### Ask:

- What are the two major parties in American politics? (*the Republicans and the Democrats*)
- What is a platform? (*a political party's statement of ideas, policies, and beliefs*)

#### Learning Styles: Logical/Mathematical

Ask students to review the information about multiparty systems. Have them meet in small groups to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the multiparty system. Instruct each student to write a short essay in which they explain whether they are for or against a multiparty system. Their essays should include specific reasons supporting their positions.

#### Other Strategies

ELL/ESL Strategy

Learning Styles: Logical/Mathematical

### ASSESS AND REMEDIATE

- Assign the Section Assessment questions; grade student responses.

#### Chapter Resources

**Essential Questions Journal**

**Prereading and Vocabulary Worksheet**

(All-in-One, p. 9)

**Chapter 5 Outline** (All-in-One, pp. 10–12)

#### Other Resources

**Reading Comprehension Worksheet**

(All-in-One, p. 14)

**Section Quiz B** (All-in-One, p. 18)

**Audio support is available for this section.**

**Additional features for Differentiated Instruction can be found throughout the Teacher's Edition.**