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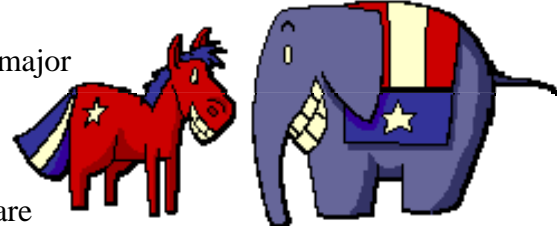
## *-The Development of American Political Parties-*

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### What Is a Political Party?

- A \_\_\_\_\_ is a group of citizens who want to influence government by getting the candidate of their choice elected.
- Parties nominate \_\_\_\_\_ that's share their views on major issues. Then they campaign to get them elected to public office.

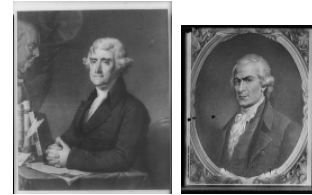


### Parties in the United States

- Any American citizen may declare membership in a political party. Most members are of voting age.
- The United States has had a \_\_\_\_\_ since Abraham Lincoln became the first Republican president in 1860.

### Hamilton vs. Jefferson

- Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton differed in their views on government and the Constitution.
- Jefferson's followers called themselves the \_\_\_\_\_. They were suspicious of strong government, calling for power to reside with the states.
- Hamilton's \_\_\_\_\_ believed in powerful national government and a strong president.



### Jacksonian Democracy Reigns

- In 1828, Andrew Jackson was nominated as the leader of a new \_\_\_\_\_ Party. This was based on the common people, the farmers and merchants.
- Out of the split in the Dem-Reps rose the National Republicans (better known as the \_\_\_\_\_).
- After 1830, the Whigs and Democrats remained the two major parties until the 1850s.

### The Two Major Parties Emerge

- In 1854 Whigs, former Free Soil Party members, and ex-Democrats formed the \_\_\_\_\_ Party to oppose the spread of slavery in U.S. territories.
- The Whigs faded from American politics leaving the Democrats and Republicans in a two-party system that has dominated American politics ever since

### Third Parties

- Any party other than the two major parties can be called a "\_\_\_\_\_."
- A third party has never won a presidential election and rarely wins other major elections.
- When these smaller groups challenge the two major parties, they can change the outcome of elections.
- Their most important role is to \_\_\_\_\_ on one or more issues.

### Third Parties at the Turn of the Century

- In the late 1800s, the People’s Party, or “\_\_\_\_\_” became popular.
- They had the support of farmers and workers who called for better working conditions.
- They never succeeded in getting a national candidate into office; many of their ideas on workers’ rights became laws in the 20th Century.

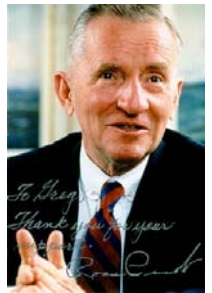


### The Republicans Split

- Former Republican President Theodore Roosevelt left the Republican Party and was nominated by the \_\_\_\_\_ Party.
- It was nicknamed the “Bull Moose Party” because TR said he was “fit as a bull moose.”
- TR split the 1912 Republican vote, allowing Democrat Woodrow Wilson to defeat President William H. Taft.

### Ideological Third Parties

- An ideology is a body of ideas put forth by a person or group.
- Minor third parties are often formed to support a specific issue. These rise and fall over time.
- Ideological parties want to change society in major ways.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Parties want to nationalize major industries. The \_\_\_\_\_ Party calls for companies to respect the environment.



### Cult of Personality

- Some third parties form from the efforts of famous people.
- If they cannot gain support from one of the major parties, they form their own.
- H. Ross Perot’s \_\_\_\_\_ Party was a force in the 1992 and 1996 elections. This party also placed pro wrestler Jesse Ventura in the governor’s mansion in Minnesota.
- These parties usually fade after their candidate is defeated.

### The Odds Are Against Them

- It is difficult for third parties candidates to raising enough money to compete with the major parties.
- Only one candidate can win in a given district. Usually the winner is either Democratic or Republican.
- Third-party candidates must show they have support by getting \_\_\_\_\_ to even be placed on the ballot for national office.

### American Politics Today

- Democrats usually feel that the federal government has a responsibility to help the poor through government \_\_\_\_\_. Democrats are generally seen as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Republicans hold the view that leaving the economy alone will allow for growth, giving people greater ability to help themselves. They believe in less regulation. Republicans are viewed as being \_\_\_\_\_.

### Parties move toward the center

- A \_\_\_\_\_ is a statement that puts forth the party's positions on issues. Each individual issue is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Both parties want votes. As a result, they tend to avoid extremes.
- The American people generally agree about many issues. This forces the two parties toward the center of the political spectrum.



### Functions of Political Parties