

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

- ballot** a form on which a person casts his or her vote
- campaign** to run for an elected office
- candidate** a person running for government office
- closed primary** a primary election in which voters cast ballots for candidates from their own political party
- conservative** one who does not want change
- decentralizing** moving power away from the national government
- delegates** representatives from state political parties who attend a national party convention
- Democrat** one of the two major current political parties
- Electoral College** body of delegates who elect the President based on the results of general state elections
- electors** delegates to the Electoral College
- extremists** those with either very liberal or very conservative views
- general election** final election between one candidate from each party

Vocabulary

- independent** a voter who does not support any one party
- liberal** one who would like change or reform
- moderates** those with beliefs that fall between liberal and conservative
- open primary** a primary election in which all voters choose candidates from either party
- platform** a list of things a political party believes in and is willing to work toward attaining
- political party** a group of people who want to control the government
- popular vote** the number of actual votes cast in an election
- primary election** an election to pick the candidates for each political party
- Republican** one of the two major current political parties
- runoff** an election held after a primary election to make the final choice of a party's candidate
- social programs** government programs to help people who are poor or in need of assistance
- third party** any political party other than the two major parties like the Republican or Democratic party