

Benchmark: C2a

Some Political Parties in the United States

Democratic Party
Republican Party
Libertarian Party
Green Party
Constitution Party
Communist Party USA
Democratic Socialists of America

Brief Constructed Response Prompt:

How might the American political system be different without political parties? Please provide an explanation to support your answer.

Possible Response(s): Students may offer a variety of plausible responses.

If political parties were non-existent the American political landscape may be very different than it is today. For example, running for office may be much more challenging. Individuals typically lack the broad range of resources that parties provide and modern elections require. Fundraising, communicating, and campaigning could fall solely on the shoulders of individual candidates.

Rubric

2 = This response gives a valid reason with an accurate and relevant explanation.

1 = This response gives a valid reason with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no explanation.

0 = inaccurate or no response