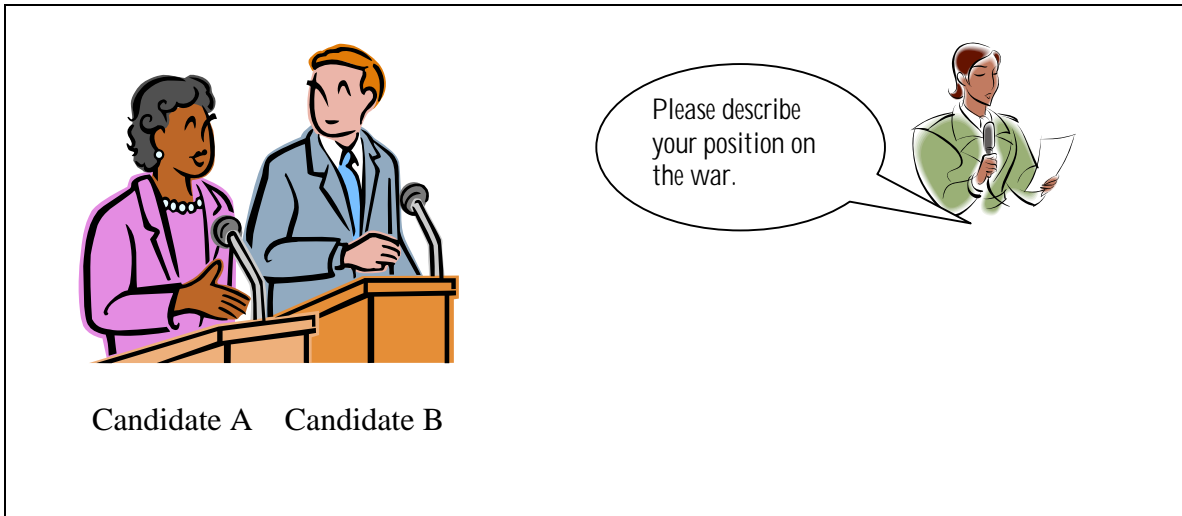


Benchmark: 4a



Brief Constructed Response Prompt: Use the scenario presented above to explain why it might be important for a citizen to remain informed.

Sample Response(s):

Citizens who remain informed are in a better position to use their votes and voices to steer elected officials in the desired direction in terms of public policy. Clearly, any war involves enormous costs in terms of lives and resources. Citizens should seek justifications for any war and support candidates who present them.