



Lesson Activity: Watching the Presidential Debates

Name: _____

Date: _____

HANDOUT: How the Media Covers the Debates

Instructions: Pick a newspaper article or television show and fill out the following worksheet:

1. Title of debate article?
2. What kind of media (television, newspaper, internet, other) was reviewed?
3. What does the reporter say about the debates?
4. Does the reporter mention the elements of the debate listed on your ballot: analysis, evidence, reasoning, cross-fire, rebuttal, delivery? Does the reporter's discussion of the debate match your own ratings?
5. What other criteria does the reporter use?
6. Discuss the article and why you think the reporter may have written about the debate the way he or she did.