

Student Worksheet

DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

STORY

Democrats Fight on for Nomination, McCain Seals GOP Spot, 03/05/08

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/us/jan-june08/mccain_3-05.html

READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What happened Tuesday, March 4 in Ohio and Texas?

2. Who supported Hillary Clinton in Ohio?

3. Who is Mike Huckabee? What did he do Tuesday night after the results in Ohio and Texas?

4. How did Obama react to Clinton's win in Ohio and Rhode Island?

5. What are super delegates and how might they figure into the Democratic primary?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

1. How will the fact that John McCain can now run as the Republican candidate affect the overall race?

2. If you were a super delegate, how would you vote? How would you make your decision?
[Consider how your state voted, how your district voted, your personal opinion, public opinion]

3. Research what Senators Clinton and Obama are doing to woo super delegates. Do you think this is good for our democracy? Research why the Democrats created the super delegate system—do you think it serves the goals for which it was intended?

4. What is the difference between a winner take all contest and a proportional contest? Which do you think is fairer? Which is more effective?

5. Make a prediction about the next few months: the primaries, the conventions and Election Day on November 4. What do you think will happen? Your class can make a time capsule with the

predictions and open it November 5th – there could even be a prize for the person who best predicted the result!

4. Visit your local mall or grocery store and talk to the store owners about prices. Are prices going up or down? What are the business owners' explanations for the price changes of their specific products?

Extension Activity

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra (extra@newshour.org). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.