

**Lesson Title:** Know Your Vote

Handout #1: “Real Voters of the USA” Graphic Organizer

**Directions:** After watching the film “Real Voters of the USA,” work in your groups to complete questions 1-3. After the full class discussion, discuss question 4 in your group. Be prepared to share your answers with the entire class.

1. What was your major takeaway from this film? What was a particular point that caught your attention and why?
2. On the chart below, summarize the argument between Lara and Elaine on lowering the deficit and balancing the budget, or spending money on social programs and infrastructure.

<b>Lara – Liberal</b>	<b>Elaine – Fiscal Conservative</b>
Ideology: belief in government action to achieve equal opportunity and equality for all. Government’s role is to address social problems, promote the general welfare, and protect civil liberties and human rights.	Ideology: belief in personal responsibility and limited government. Government’s role is to be fiscally prudent with the people’s money (taxes) and secure peoples’ freedom to pursue their goals.
<b>Argument Summary</b>	<b>Argument Summary</b>
3. How did political ideologies get in the way of discussion?	

4. Though Lara and Elaine continued to disagree on their positions, Jessica was able to get them to agree on a few points to address the issues. Review them below and comment on how well you think these actions will help.

• Long term plan to pay off debts	
• Investing in infrastructure projects	
• Controlling government spending	
• Raising taxes to balance budget	