US Election 1

1. **Meet the candidates and their running mates - PRESENTATIONS**
2. **American symbols**

The purpose is to be able to decode them when you meet them later on e.g. in speeches and campaign ads. Take turns reading the description of the symbols. Find images that match these symbols and insert them below

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| SYMBOL | PICTURE |
| The American Flag: unity, patriotism and national pride |  |
| Bald Eagle: freedom, strength, and the American spirit |  |
| Donkey: official symbol of the Democratic Party and stands for hard work and humility |  |
| Elephant: official symbol of the Republican Party, symbolizing strength and dignity |  |
| Liberty Bell: symbol of American independence and freedom |  |
| Uncle Sam: personifies the U.S. government and is frequently used to encourage people to be politically active |  |
| Stars and Stripes: The American flag which stands for unity as a nation  |  |
| Capitol Building: legislative branch of the U.S. government and so becomes a symbol of democracy |  |
| The White House: symbolises the presidency and the executive branch |  |
| Statue of Liberty: a hugely important symbol for Americans: freedom, democracy, and American ideals |  |
| Torch of Liberty: symbolises enlightenment and freedom which Americans see as some of their most important values |  |

1. **Fill in the table below in order to make clear what the parties have in common and how they’re different from each other.**

Use these sites:

<http://www.democrats.org/>

<http://www.gop.gov/>

You’re welcome to choose other websites as well but make sure that they’re valid and appropriate for college.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Issues/political parties | Democrats  | Republicans |
| Taxes/economy |  |  |
| Military |  |  |
| LGBT issues |  |  |
| MedicAid/Medicare/Health care  |  |  |
| Abortion |  |  |
| Death penalty |  |  |
| Immigration |  |  |
| Guns |  |  |
| Democracy  |  |  |
| Your own choice of topic |  |  |