

Terms to Remember:

voting

disenfranchisement
 literacy test
 understanding test
 white primaries
 poll taxes
 grandfather clause

expanding voting

15th Amendment
 19th Amendment
 24th Amendment
 26th Amendment

registering

ID laws
 Motor—Voter Act

polling place

election judge
 poll watchers

ballot types

office-block
 party-column

ticket types

straight
 split

early voting

elections

primary
 open
 closed

caucus

frontloading
 conventions
 midterm election
 general election

running for office

Buckley v. Valeo
 incumbent
 competitive seat
 open seat
 PACs

Electoral College

winner-take-all
 district system

Questions:

1. What is the importance of voting?
2. What are three ways the public may become involved directly in the political process?
3. How have voting rights or the franchise been expanded since the *Constitution* was first ratified?
4. What is the purpose of the Motor—Voter Act?
5. What is the purpose of an election judge?
6. How do open and closed primary systems work?
7. What is the difference between an office-block ballot and a party-column ballot?
8. What is frontloading?
9. What is a grandfather clause?

- Answers:
1. voting is a way for the public to access the political process; a channel for people to get involved with policy making
 2. initiative or voters making a direct ballot proposal for all voters to see; referendum or citizens directly voting on proposed laws from the legislature; and recall or voters attempting to remove politicians or government officials from office via a recall election
 3. the 15th acknowledge a protection of voting rights to all male citizens except Native Americans, the 19th acknowledged women's right to vote; 24th removed all poll taxes; and the 26th expanded voting rights to include all citizens 18 and older
 4. to expand opportunities for voter registration to include visits to the DMV and when applying for government aid programs
 5. an election judge oversees the polling place during an election, they administer oaths to election officers and assistants, they make sure all the rules about polling places are followed and no voters are intimidated at the polls, etc.
 6. open primaries do not require voters to be registered with a political party, closed primaries only allow party members to participate in the primary election; no one may interfere during a general election
 7. office-block focuses on the government office rather than directly on party affiliation; party-column focuses on the party affiliation of the candidate over the office
 8. frontloading is allowing a few states to go first in the primary/caucus process; thereby gaining extra attention from candidates and media outlets, etc.
 9. grandfather clauses allowed illiterate whites to vote and bypass literacy tests if their ancestor voted