READING COMPREHENSION

The Presidential Election

1. On what type of voters do campaigns focus much of their efforts following the national conventions?

2. What are “battleground States,” and what importance do they play in campaign strategy?

3. When people vote in a presidential election, for whom are they actually voting?

4. How is the role of presidential electors different today from the way the Framers envisioned it?

5. How and when are the electors chosen?

6. When and where do the electors cast their electoral votes?

7. What happens to the electors’ ballots after they are cast?

8. When does the formal election of the President and Vice President take place?

9. What happens on that date?

10. What if no candidate for President has won a majority of electoral votes?

11. What if no candidate for Vice President has won a majority of electoral votes?

12. Who acts as President if neither a President-elect nor a Vice President-elect has qualified by Inauguration Day?
13. What are the three major defects in the electoral college system?
   a. _______________________________________________
   b. _______________________________________________
   c. _______________________________________________

14. What are the two main reasons that the winner of the popular vote does not always win the presidency?
   a. _______________________________________________
   b. _______________________________________________

15. What are the three main objections to election by the House?
   a. _______________________________________________
   b. _______________________________________________
   c. _______________________________________________

16. Complete the table to describe the proposed electoral college reforms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Requires Constitutional Amendment? (Yes/No)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District plan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportional plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct popular election</td>
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<tr>
<td>National popular vote plan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

17. Name at least three arguments against direct popular election.
   _______________________________________________
   _______________________________________________
   _______________________________________________

18. What are the three major strengths of the electoral college system?
   a. _______________________________________________
   b. _______________________________________________
   c. _______________________________________________