

# Lesson Plan

**Subject:** Social Studies

**I. Title:**

A. Unit Title  
Civics

B. Lesson Title  
The Two Party System Now

**II. Objectives—each student will be able to:**

1. Describe each political party's message/platform.
2. Compare and contrast each party's message/platform noting the similarities and differences between them.
3. Judge which party's message/platform they agree with.

**III. Content and Strategies:**

A. Introduction

1. Today in the Computer Lab you will be doing research on the Democratic and Republican parties.
2. You will need your notebook, a writing implement and the instruction sheet just handed to you.
3. This is the only class time you will be given for this assignment.
4. If there is time, you may start your essay in class. It must be completed for homework. It is due next class.

B. Body

1. Utilizing the Internet students are to view the following websites:
  - a. Republican National Committee (<http://www.gop.com>)
  - b. Democratic National Committee (<http://www.democrats.org>)
2. At each party's web site, students are to locate the area where the party's message or platform is described.
3. Students are to explain each party's message or platform in their notebooks.
4. Students are to compare and contrast the messages of each party noting the similarities and differences between them in their notebooks.
5. Based on their notes students are to write an essay (at least 200 words) comparing and contrasting each party's message or platform, and judge which they may agree with; if neither, why? The essay will be completed for homework.

C. Evaluation

1. Students' essays will be evaluated

**IV. Resources, Instruction Materials, and Activities Being Used:**

1. Computer Lab
2. The following websites:
  - a. Republican National Committee (<http://www.gop.com>)
  - b. Democratic National Committee (<http://www.democrats.org>)
3. Attached student instruction sheet