

**AP United States Government  
Chapter 10 Study Guide – Elections and Voting Behavior**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vocabulary:** On index cards, define the following terms.

- |                        |                       |                                |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Legitimacy          | 5. Political efficacy | 9. Mandate theory of elections |
| 2. Referendum          | 6. Civic duty         | 10. Policy voting              |
| 3. Initiative petition | 7. Voter registration | 11. Electoral college          |
| 4. Suffrage            | 8. Motor Voter Act    | 12. Retrospective voting       |

**Questions:** Complete the following as you read chapter 10 in your textbook.

1. List three major functions of elections in American society.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
2. List the three kinds of elections found in the United States and their purpose.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  
3. What is the difference between an initiative petition and a referendum?
  
4. Complete the following table on the elections of 1800, 1896, and 2008.

Year	Candidates and Party	Winner	Major Issues	Campaign Style	Significance of Election
1800					
1896					
2008					

5. What were the major reasons why people voted for either Barack Obama or John McCain in the 2008 presidential election?

Barack Obama:

John McCain:

6. List and explain three major reasons why people might vote.

- a.

- b.

- c.

7. What is the major provision of the 1993 Motor Voter Act?

8. List and explain six demographic factors that are related to voter turnout.

- a.

- b.

- c.

- d.

- e.

- f.

9. How has the influence of party identification on voting changed since the 1950s?

10. What are the three most important dimensions of candidate image?

- a.

- b.

- c.

11. What are the four conditions necessary for true policy voting to take place?
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
12. Briefly explain how the electoral college works.
13. What are the two reasons why the electoral college is important to presidential elections?
  - a.
  - b.
14. What are the two tasks that elections accomplish, according to democratic theory?
  - a.
  - b.
15. According to the text, what is the clearest way in which elections broadly affect public policy?