Study Materials

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[WAVE 1 – Political Sophistication and Verbal Ability]

We would like to know something about people's knowledge of American politics. Please answer the questions below without any assistance. It is very important that you only use your own knowledge.

Do you happen to know what job or political office is now held by John Roberts? What is it?

_____

Do you happen to know what job or political office is now held by Nancy Pelosi? What is it?

_____

Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not? Is it: the President, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?

O the President (1)

O the Congress (2)

O the Supreme Court (3)

O I don't know (4)

How much of a majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto?

○ A bare majority – 50 percent plus one (1)

○ A two-thirds majority (2)

○ A three-fourths majority (3)

○ A four-fifths majority (4)

○ I don't know (5)

Which party currently has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington?

○ Democratic Party (1)

○ Republican Party (2)

○ I don't know (3)

Which party currently has the most members in the U.S. Senate?

○ Democratic Party (1)

○ Republican Party (2)

○ I don't know (3)

What is the main duty of the U.S. Congress?

○ To write legislation (1)

○ To administer the President's policies (2)

○ To supervise the states' governments (3)

○ I don't know (4)

For how many years is a United States Senator elected – that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. Senator?

_____

Under the U.S. Constitution, who can declare war? Is it: the President, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?

○ the President (1)

○ the Congress (2)

○ the Supreme Court (3)

○ I don't know (4)

Which of the following does the U.S. federal government currently spend the least?

○ Foreign Aid (1)

○ Medicare (2)

○ National Defense (3)

○ Social Security (4)

○ I don't know (5)

We would like to know something about how people go about guessing words they do not know. Below are listed some words. You may know some of them, and you may not know quite a few of them. On each line, the first word is in capital letters --- like BEAST. Then there are five other words. Please select the word that comes closest to the meaning of the word in capital letters. For example, if the word in capital letters is BEAST, you would select "4" since "animal" comes closer to BEAST than any of the other words.

Please answer the questions below without any assistance. It is very important that you only use your own knowledge.

EXAMPLE: BEAST 1. afraid 2. words 3. large 4. animal 5. separate

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SPACE

○ school (1) ○ noon (2) ○ captain (3) ○ room (4) ○ board (5)

BROADEN

○ efface (1) ○ make level (2) ○ elapse (3) ○ embroider (4) ○ widen (5)

EMANATE

○ populate (1) ○ free (2) ○ prominent (3) ○ rival (4) ○ come (5)

EDIBLE

○ auspicious (1) ○ eligible (2) ○ fit to eat (3) ○ sagacious (4) ○ able to speak (5)

ANIMOSITY

○ hatred (1) ○ animation (2) ○ disobedience (3) ○ diversity (4) ○ friendship (5)

PACT

○ puissance (1) ○ remonstrance (2) ○ agreement (3) ○ skillet (4) ○ pressure (5)

CLOISTERED

○ miniature (1) ○ bunched (2) ○ arched (3) ○ malady (4) ○ secluded (5)

CAPRICE

○ value (1) ○ a star (2) ○ grimace (3) ○ whim (4) ○ inducement (5)

ACCUSTOM

○ disappoint (1) ○ customary (2) ○ encounter (3) ○ get used to (4) ○ business (5)

ALLUSION

○ reference (1) ○ dream (2) ○ eulogy (3) ○ illusion (4) ○ aria (5)

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Did you vote in the 2020 Presidential Election?

○ Yes, I voted (1)

○ No, I did not vote (2)

Who did you vote for in the 2020 Presidential Election? *[Display if yes, voted]*

○ Donald Trump / Mike Pence (V.P.) (1)

○ Joe Biden / Kamala Harris (V.P.) (2)

○ Jo Jorgensen / Spike Cohen (V.P.) (3)

○ Other (please specify) (4) _____

To what extent do you think voter fraud contributed to the results of the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election?

	-3 Strongly Benefited Donald Trump (1)	-2 Modestly Benefited Donald Trump (2)	-1 Slightly Benefited Donald Trump (3)	0 Overall Benefited Neither Candidate (4)	+1 Slightly Benefited Joe Biden (5)	+2 Modestly Benefited Joe Biden (6)	+3 Strongly Benefited Joe Biden (7)
Voter fraud (1)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

As far as you know, do you think the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election was a free and fair election?

O -2 Definitely Not (1)

O -1 Probably Not (2)

O 0 No Opinion (3)

O +1 Probably Yes (4)

O +2 Definitely Yes (5)

On the next page, you will be presented with several actual Tweets made by President Trump. Please read each Tweet and indicate the extent to which you believe his statement is true or false.

Tweet Stimuli (Left = Control Condition, Right = Flagged Warning Condition):

Do you believe this statement to be true or false? *[Question repeated for each Tweet]*

○ -3 Extremely False (-3)

○ -2 Mostly False (-2)

○ -1 Slightly False (-1)

○ 0 No Opinion (0)

○ +1 Slightly True (1)

○ +2 Mostly True (2)

○ +3 Extremely True (3)

To what extent do you think voter fraud contributed to the results of the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election?

	-3 Strongly Benefited Donald Trump (1)	-2 Modestly Benefited Donald Trump (2)	-1 Slightly Benefited Donald Trump (3)	0 Overall Benefited Neither Candidate (4)	+1 Slightly Benefited Joe Biden (5)	+2 Modestly Benefited Joe Biden (6)	+3 Strongly Benefited Joe Biden (7)
Voter fraud (1)	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

As far as you know, do you think the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election was a free and fair election?

○ -2 Definitely Not (1)

○ -1 Probably Not (2)

○ 0 No Opinion (3)

○ +1 Probably Yes (4)

○ +2 Definitely Yes (5)

Do you recall whether or not the tweets from President Trump presented earlier included a disclaimer warning that his claim about election fraud is disputed?

○ Yes, there was a disclaimer (1)

○ No, there was NOT a disclaimer (2)

○ I can't remember (3)