

Lesson Plan

Political Trivia

Book: *Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*

Series: Groundbreaking Women in Politics

Level: Voyager

Objective

To help students understand vocabulary terms related to government and politics.

Supplies

- *Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez* book
- Whiteboard
- Political Trivia Clues and Answers (attached)

Before the Activity

Read the *Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez* book as a class, or assign it to students to read on their own. Draw the following chart on the whiteboard:

Laws & Lawmakers	People & Politicians	Elections	Views & Values
100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500
600	600	600	600

Activity

After reading the book, divide students into four teams. Explain that they will play a trivia game to practice vocabulary words related to the US political system. On each team's turn, one student can choose a category from the chart on the whiteboard. You will read a clue from the Political Trivia Clues and Answers out loud. Team members can work together to think of the term this clue defines. After discussing, they can choose a spokesperson to give the team's answer. If the answer is correct, the team gets the clue's number added to its score. Then, the next team gets to choose a clue.

Explain that each team has two special abilities it can use throughout the game. First, each team can steal. A steal allows the team to jump in if another team guesses incorrectly and steal the points by giving the correct answer. To use a steal, team members must raise a hand immediately after you reveal that another team's answer is incorrect. Second, each team can ask for hints. A hint allows teams to ask you for the page number where the answer is mentioned in the book. This page number is listed on the Political Trivia Clues and Answers.

Evaluation

Record each team's points on the whiteboard. The team with the most points at the end wins.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 6 (RI 6.4), and the National Council for Social Studies' Standard 6.

Political Trivia Clues and Answers

Laws & Lawmakers

100. A written plan to create or change a law.

bill (p. 41)

200. One of the two legislative bodies (the House or the Senate) of the US Congress.

chamber (p. 29)

300. The political party that holds the most seats in a chamber of Congress and controls it.

majority (p. 29)

400. A group of lawmakers that oversees actions of the US government related to a topic.

committee (p. 30)

500. A group that is part of the government and is in charge of carrying out certain tasks.

agency (p. 12)

600. Government rules that affect the entire population of a country.

public policy (p. 11)

People & Politicians

100. People who live in a representative's district.

constituents (p. 12)

200. A person who lives in a place and has certain rights as a result.

citizen (p. 39)

300. To act or speak on behalf of others.

represent (p. 6)

400. People who speak out against something they think is wrong.

protesters (p. 18)

500. The candidate who is backed by a political party during an election.

nominee (p. 5)

600. A person who is running for office.

candidate (p. 7)

Elections

- 100. Groups that select and support political candidates.
political parties (p. 23)
- 200. An area that votes to elect a representative.
district (p. 5)
- 300. An election that decides a political party's nominee for a general election.
primary (p. 5)
- 400. An election in which voters choose which candidate will take office.
general election (p. 7)
- 500. A plan of traveling and speaking that candidates use to gain support from voters.
campaign (p. 24)
- 600. A campaign that relies on the work of many volunteers instead of on large donations.
grassroots campaign (p. 26)

Views & Values

- 100. In favor of making changes or improvements away from traditional norms.
progressive (p. 16)
- 200. In favor of preserving traditional systems and norms.
conservative (p. 34)
- 300. People who support traditional social values and limited government involvement in the economy.
Republicans (p. 23)
- 400. People who support greater social freedom and government involvement in the economy.
Democrats (p. 23)
- 500. A system in which people own property and work to make money.
capitalism (p. 24)
- 600. A system in which the government provides for basic needs and workers control the economy.
socialism (p. 24)