

Background Article Questions

Deliberation Topic: Should the order of presidential primaries and caucuses be changed?

Directions: To provide a background for the deliberation, answer the questions associated with each of the articles.

How did the presidential campaign get to be so long? - The Conversation	
How does the campaign season in the United States compare to those of Canada and Mexico?	
Describe how candidates were nominated by their political parties prior to 1968.	
What occurred at the 1968 Democratic convention? Describe the reforms that were implemented after this.	
What is the difference between primaries and caucuses?	
Why were Jimmy Carter's strategy and success in the Iowa caucuses significant?	
How did the caucus and primary system evolve after the 1976 election?	

How Much Do Iowa And New Hampshire Really Matter For 2020?- FiveThirtyEight	
Describe the current ordering of the primaries and caucuses.	
Historically, how have winners of the Iowa and New Hampshire contests done in securing their party's nomination?	
How can exceeding expectations in Iowa or New Hampshire impact a candidate's success nationally?	
How are Iowa and New Hampshire demographically different than other states?	
Why were Jimmy Carter's strategy and success in the Iowa caucuses significant?	
How can later primary elections counteract successes in Iowa and New Hampshire?	
2020 Presidential Election Calendar - Five Thirty Eight	
When was your state's primary or caucuses in 2020? How does this compare to other states?	
How do you think the schedule of your state's	

primary or caucuses impacts the influence primary voters in your state have in choosing

a nominee?