

Political Parties in Elections and in Government — Student Activity

Directions: Complete the following. Use ideas from the LEGO videos to support your thinking.

1. Background

What is a faction?	
What are examples of factions?	
What was Madison's main argument about factions?	

2. Madison's Solution

Problem	Solution
Factions are Inevitable	
Majority faction can oppress minorities	
Too many interests compete	

3. Read through the Excerpt of Federalist 10. As you read, be sure to do the following.

- Highlight Madison's definition of faction.
- Circle the causes of factions.
- Underline proposed solutions.

4. Then, with a partner, answer the following questions.

Why can't factions be removed?	
Why is a large republic better than a small one?	
How does representation reduce the danger of majority rule?	

5. From our discussion,

What is a linkage institution?	
What are four examples?	

6. Complete the following as we discuss together.

Linkage Institution	Controls Factions By...	Encourages Factions By...
Parties		
Elections		
Interest Groups		
Media		

7. Would Madison believe today's linkage institutions solve the problem of factions—or make it worse? Answer in a well-developed paragraph below.