

Prompt: Create DOK questions about the electoral college video

Depth of Knowledge Questions: The Electoral College


DOK 1: Recall & Reproduction

1. What year was the Electoral College created?
2. Who created the Electoral College?
3. What is the main role of the Electoral College in U.S. elections?
4. When Americans vote for president, whose vote officially elects the president?

 Activity Idea: Create a timeline of key events in the history of the Electoral College.


DOK 2: Skills & Concepts

1. How does the Electoral College differ from a direct popular vote?
2. Why did the Framers of the Constitution choose to create the Electoral College?
3. What are some of the main arguments for and against the Electoral College system?
4. How might the outcome of an election be different with the Electoral College versus a direct popular vote?

 Activity Idea: Hold a class debate on the pros and cons of the Electoral College system.


DOK 3: Strategic Thinking

1. How has the role or impact of the Electoral College changed since its creation in 1787?
2. What potential consequences could arise from abolishing the Electoral College?
3. How does the Electoral College affect campaign strategies in presidential elections?
4. In what ways does the Electoral College influence the two-party system in the United States?

 Activity Idea: Create a mock presidential campaign strategy, taking into account the Electoral College system.

DOK 4: Extended Thinking

1. Evaluate the arguments for keeping or abolishing the Electoral College. Which do you find more convincing and why?
2. How might changing or removing the Electoral College system impact voter turnout and engagement in different states?
3. Design an alternative system for electing the president that addresses some of the criticisms of the Electoral College while maintaining its perceived benefits.
4. Analyze how the Electoral College has affected historical presidential elections. Choose one election where the Electoral College winner differed from the popular vote winner and explain the implications.

 Activity Idea: Research and create a presentation on a proposed alternative to the Electoral College, explaining how it would work and its potential impacts on U.S. elections.