

## Create Your Own Political Party



Most often, a person who votes for a certain party does not agree with every stance a party takes on a particular issue. Some **third parties** arise just to get their issues heard. Now is your chance to create your own ideal, perfect political party. Your party should incorporate current political issues, plus issues that really matter to you.

### 1. **Party Name:**

You must come up with an original name for your political party. Put some thought into it, remember, a name reflects many things about what your party represents.

### 2. **Party Symbol:**

You must create a symbol for your party. Think about the beliefs you hold, and your party name. The symbol must fit or match with the other components of your political party. No donkeys or elephants allowed. (*Symbol can be drawn or done on the computer*)

### 3. **Party Slogan:**

You will need to create a slogan that will serve as the catchphrase for your party.

### 4. **Party Planks (positions):**

You must list your party's position regarding the issues, but your positions do not have to be from the Democratic or Republican parties. Your stance should be your stance! This is your party, your platform. Make it yours. You must state your position on at **least 5 of the issues** below or an issue not mentioned in that chart that is near and dear to your new political party's platform.

For information on Political Parties in the United States:  
<http://www.uselections.com/parties.htm>

ISSUE	POSITION OF YOUR PARTY
<p><b><u>Economy/Taxes</u></b> (Lower taxes? Increase taxes, esp. for businesses/wealthy? Creation of jobs.)</p>	
<p><b><u>Gun Control</u></b> (Right to bear arms? Any limitations? Background Checks? Guns in public places?)</p>	
<p><b><u>War on Terror / Defense</u></b> (Increase Spending? More troops? Drones? Domestic Threat? NASA?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Immigration</u></b> (Amnesty? Earned Citizenship? Enforce current laws and deport? Anchor babies? Secure borders?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Healthcare</u></b> (Who should provide it; government or private sector? Universal Healthcare? Obamacare?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Capital Punishment</u></b> (Abolish Death Penalty? Cruel &amp; Unusual punishment? Fits the crime?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Same-Sex Marriage</u></b> (Marriage legal for all? Violation of moral/religious beliefs? Gay marriage rights to benefits?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Abortion</u></b> (Right to life? Freedom of Choice? Support Roe v. Wade?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Environment</u></b> (Safety of wild life, End bomb testing in ocean? Reduce pollution? Natural energy? Use domestic oil reserves?)</p>	
<p><b><u>Other:</u></b></p>	

Other possible topics: Prison Overcrowding, War on Drugs and drug laws, Influence of special interest groups and lobbyists, Peace in the Middle East (Israel), Federal Deficit, Global Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Campaign Finance Reform, Aid to developing nations, Social Programs - (Welfare, Social Security, Medicare), Education (Traditional schools, Charter Schools, Funding, Testing)

## **5. Party Platform:**

What main idea or belief is your party based upon? (For example: In 2008's elections, the Democrats focused a lot on the economy and the war in Iraq)

You will need to create a manifesto of your political party that should not exceed 350 words. This essay should further explain how your party feels on various issues while also establishing your ideology. Be sure to explain how your party and its ideals on the issues will change the United States.

Use your research and Party Planks to write a cohesive essay that describes the philosophy/vision of your party.

### **EXAMPLE:**

#### **The Green Feminist Party**

**"Women's Revolution and No Pollution!"**

The Green Feminist Party was created to stand up for women's rights as well as a greener environment. Equality is key, as well as healthier air and clean communities for all. The party's key issues are gender equality, same-sex marriage, and the environment. We are in favor for abortion, as it is a woman's choice to what she thinks is right for her and her situation. We are also in favor for same-sex marriage. This does not only apply for women. We believe in equality for all. We also want a healthier living environment that includes less pollution, smarter recycling, and less energy consumption which will all lead to a healthier lifestyle. Our party plans to nominate and recruit candidates by attending and being apart of caucuses, primary elections, national conventions, and other meetings discussing the circumstances. We will educate the electorate and help candidates win elections by mobilizing volunteers, advertisements through television, radio broadcasting, pamphlets, use of online media, and fundraising. We will monitor the actions of officeholders by having meetings and a checks and balance system where a trusted nominated individual will review the candidate's detailed report of their actions he wants to take forth.



# Rubric:

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Party Name</b>	<b>Developing</b> Student did not create a party name.	<b>Approaching</b> Student used little or no creativity in party name.	<b>Meets</b> Student's name showed some creativity.	<b>Exceeds</b> Student's name shows creativity and is relevant to their party platform.
<b>Party Symbol</b>	<b>Developing</b> Student did not create a party symbol.	<b>Approaching</b> Student did not relate to the issues of the party and/or party symbol was not creative.	<b>Meets</b> Party symbol was somewhat creative, and was used in the platform paragraph.	<b>Exceeds</b> Party symbol was creative, and used in the platform paragraph.
<b>Party Slogan</b>	<b>Developing</b> Student did not create party slogan.	<b>Approaching</b> Student's slogan was not related to political party.	<b>Meets</b> Student created a slogan that was creative, but was not discussed in the platform paragraph.	<b>Exceeds</b> Student created a creative party slogan that represented the party's beliefs and was discussed in the platform paragraph.
<b>Party Planks</b>	<b>Developing</b> Student did not describe their position on at least 5 key issues.	<b>Approaching</b> Student did not fully describe their position on at least 5 key issues.	<b>Meets</b> Description of issues was not a thorough description of where they stand on each issue.	<b>Exceeds</b> Student described their position on at least 5 key issues with a thorough description of where they stand on each issue.
<b>Party Platform</b>	<b>Developing</b> Student did not create a party platform.	<b>Approaching</b> Student did not fully describe the key issues in the platform. Platform is confusing and unfocused.	<b>Meets</b> Student describes the key issues in the platform. Platform is focused.	<b>Exceeds</b> Student platform explains why citizens should join your party. Product shows a large amount of original thought. Ideas are creative and inventive.