

Name _____

Selecting Candidates: How Political Parties Choose Their Nominees

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The caucus system allows for more in-depth discussions and deliberations among party members but can be more time-consuming and less accessible to some voters. Primary elections are more straightforward but may lack the depth of discussion found in caucuses.
2. Party endorsements can provide candidates with credibility and support from influential party members, elected officials, and interest groups. However, they can also lead to accusations of favoritism and may not always align with the preferences of grassroots party members.
3. Campaign strategy involves a candidate's approach to winning the primary election, including advertising, voter outreach, and organizing events. Effective strategies can help candidates stand out and connect with voters, while poor strategies can lead to defeat.
4. The national convention is where delegates officially nominate their party's presidential candidate. It serves as a platform for the party to showcase its message, unite behind a candidate, and generate enthusiasm for the upcoming presidential campaign.

