

Name _____

Voting and the Electoral College

Short Answer Key

1. The Electoral College is a system where each state gets a certain number of electors who vote for the president. The candidate who wins 270 electoral votes wins the election.
2. Safe states often have lower voter participation because people feel their votes won't change the outcome. Swing states usually have higher voter participation because elections there are close.
3. Candidates campaign more in swing states because those states could vote for either party, making their electoral votes very important.
4. The winner-takes-all system means that the candidate who gets the most votes in a state wins all of that state's electoral votes.
5. People in safe states may feel like their vote doesn't matter because their state almost always votes for the same party, making the election result seem predictable.

