

## **Choice Project: Improving the United States of America**

**TASK:** As an American you have become increasingly concerned with issues currently at play within the nation. One recent event has become so alarming to your values that you have finally decided it is time to speak out about it and deliver a positive resolution to Congress to address the topic. You want people to understand your concern, so you decide to present the issue in a summarized form prior to your formal presentation. Understanding that people are not quick to change you know it is imperative to create a well-thought out solution that involves research and compromise. You will present your recommendations of change in a format that you are passionate about. (website: <https://www.isidewith.com/polls>)

### **Driving Question:**

How can a change or reversion of ideologies fix the problems a nation is facing?

### **Requirements:**

- Must identify and thoroughly summarize a modern issue in the United States.
- Create a solution to the problem that includes the following:
  - Relation to the main principles of American Democracy (Checks and Balances, Federalism, Bill of Rights, Limited Government, Declaration of Independence, Constitution, etc.).
  - Provide a change in ideology to fix the issue (new type of government or economic system, removal or addition of new rights of the people, changes to power of the government etc.).
  - And a thorough explanation of how your changes will solve the issue with evidence from valid sources (no Wikipedia at all!).
- A well-thought out project that fits the rubric and presents all the information above.
  - I will not accept half-fast projects that do not have creativity, effort, or are short.
- Contains at least 4 different sources - one of them being a primary source – to act as evidence/examples to your argument.
  - Primary sources could be: Speeches by presidents, the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, Communist Manifesto, John Locke, etc. You must incorporate the primary source in your project.
  - Must provide real-world examples and evidence.
- MLA formatted work cited page.

	<b>Exceeds</b>	<b>Meets</b>	<b>Approaching</b>	<b>Student Notes</b>
Identifying and Using Sources of Information (IB Criterion B: Investigating)	Uses traditional sources while also going beyond to seek new sources of information that show varied and creative perspectives	Uses several traditional sources to offer a variety of perspectives of the topic	Uses limited sources that lack diverse perspectives of the topic	
Critical Thinking and Analysis (IB Criterion D: Thinking Critically)	Consistently and accurately interprets evidence, identifies pros and cons, analyzes an alternative point of view, and draws a reasonable conclusion	Misinterprets evidence, fails to identify important pros and cons, dismisses alternative points of view, and draws a reasonable conclusion	Offers biased interpretations of evidence, ignores alternative points of view, and presents a conclusion based on self-interest or preconceptions.	
Answering the Driving Question (IB Criterion C: Communicating)	The topic is clear and logical with a sophisticated response that shows thorough understanding of the driving question	The topic is somewhat clear and logical and has a response that shows a somewhat thorough understanding of the driving question	The topic is not clearly shown or illogical and shows a lack of understanding of the driving question	
Explanation of Ideas (IB Criterion C: Communicating)	Presents findings and argument clearly and logically so that the audience can easily understand the findings	Presents findings and argument in a manner that is not always clear or logical and the audience cannot always understand the findings	Does not present findings in a clear manner and the argument is not logical so the audience cannot clearly understand the findings	
Real World Investigation (IB Criterion D: Thinking Critically)	Assignment is well organized, creative, and original. It provides a clear statement of purpose and thorough summary of key points.	Assignment is somewhat organized, creative, and original. It provides a statement of purpose and summary of key points but is lacking attention to detail	Assignment is not well organized and is lacking in creativity and originality. It lacks statement of purpose and does not provide a key summary of points.	
Preparation and Completion of Guidelines (IB Criterion B: Investigating)	Guideline sheet was thoroughly completed with a clear investigation of concepts and processes of creating a project.	Guideline sheet was somewhat completed with a fairly clear investigation of concepts and processes of creating a project.	Guideline was not complete entirely and there is lacking clear investigation of concepts and processes of creating a project.	
Teacher Comments/Total Points/Grade				

