

# Chapter 9 Questions- Political Parties

## Short Answer (Answer in COMPLETE sentences)

1. Has party loyalty changed through the years? Give 3 of the 5 examples of major party realignment shifts in the American electorate, not your opinion!
2. How do people in the U.S. identify statistically with the parties? (What are the percentages of affiliation)
3. Why did the Founders of the Constitution dislike parties?
4. List the three arenas of political parties. How do U.S. parties fit each of these arenas? (explain)
5. If political authority has recently become more centralized, why have parties become weaker and more decentralized?
6. If party leaders do not select candidates to run, how are the candidates chosen? Give a detailed answer by step.
7. Era of Reform (p. 208): List 5 electoral reforms the Progressives favored.
8. Explain the 2 kinds of alignment.
9. When does an electoral realignment occur?
10. How does ticket splitting affect the party composition of government?
11. Do registered party members vote their party in most elections?
12. (p.216) List two ways that conventions of both parties been permanently changed.
13. What is the strength of state and local parties?
14. List two examples of ideological parties.
15. Why do most people get involved in state and local politics?
16. (220) Describe what happened to parties by the mid-1980s.
17. What is another name of the winner takes all method?
18. Can an election be won without the majority of votes? Explain.
19. Which two states do not have the winner take all principle in the Electoral College?
20. Explain 3 reasons why the 2 party system is a permanent feature of USA political life. (220-222)
21. What type of minor parties have endured and why have they lasted?
22. How are delegates to the national convention selected? (225)
23. The Democrats have controlled both houses of Congress for many years since 1968 except what years? What years have they lost presidential elections and who was elected (use p. A32 in the back of your text to answer). What does this imply about the Repub. Party?