



## **Extension Options for *Pivotal U.S. Elections***

For all options, select an election year to focus on for additional depth.

### **Option #1: Document Based Question**

Have students select from the additional resources page to provide the necessary historical context.

Using some or all the primary sources included in your primary source set (but not the included student questions), create a writing prompt for students to construct an answer with evidence from the documents.

### **Option #2: Mock Debate**

Teachers can set up an in-class mock debate between “candidates.” A group of student moderators will develop questions to ask the candidates based on the primary sources and topics relevant to the election and essential question.

Assign groups of students to represent each candidate as well as students to serve as debate moderators.

Using some of the provided primary sources and additional secondary resources from the “Additional Resources” page, have the candidate groups create a debate platform for their chosen/assigned candidate. Have the moderator group research questions to ask the candidates based on topics relevant to the election and the essential question.

Hold a mock debate in class.

### **Option #3: Campaign Marketing**

Assign groups of students to represent each candidate for your chosen election.

Ask them to select a primary campaign theme. Groups will develop a campaign marketing piece representing their candidate’s policy position on the given theme.

They may create one of the following:

Choice 1: A 30–60 Second Television (Video) Campaign Ad

Choice 2: A Campaign Poster

Choice 3: A 30–60 Second Radio (Audio) Campaign Ad

Choice 4: A 30–60 Second Campaign Jingle (Ad Theme Song)

Choice 5: A Campaign Button

Choice 6: A Social Media Post/Tweet