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Guided Reading Activity

Choosing the President

Lesson 1 Presidential Qualifications and Leadership

Review Questions

Directions: Read each main idea. Use your text to supply the details that support or explain each main idea.

- A. Main Idea: To be elected and serve successfully as president of the United States, a person must possess a variety of skills, talents, experiences, and personal qualities.
 - 1. Detail: According to the _____, both the president and the vice president must be

natural-born U.S. citizens, at least ______ years old, and have resided in the U.S. at

least 14 years before taking office.

2. Detail: Informal requirements include _____ in government, and since 1900 most

nominees have been senators or governors.

3. Detail: Although extremely liberal or very conservative candidates have been nominated for office,

only _____ candidates have been elected.

4. Detail: Although historically presidents have come from northern ______ backgrounds

and most have been ______ class, married, Protestant, and financially successful,

candidates' backgrounds are becoming more diverse.

5. Detail: Since modern presidential candidates need to have access to huge sums of money, they must

have strong ______ support from many people.

- **B. Main Idea:** Presidents need good leadership skills as Americans look to the president to keep the peace and to solve economic and social problems.
 - 1. Detail: The more a president knows and understands the _____, the more public

support he or she will have, increasing the president's ______ with lawmakers.

2. Detail: Successful presidents must be able to communicate effectively and present their ideas in a way

that inspires public _____

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Guided Reading Activity cont.

Choosing the President

3. Detail: Successful presidents have a sense of ______, allowing them to know when the

time is right to introduce a new policy, to make a key decision, or to delay such actions.

4. Detail: Because good leadership requires being open to new ideas, a successful president must be

able to _____

5. Detail: Successful presidents need political ______ to make decisions that may be

unpopular with the public or with their own political _____.

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

What are the requirements necessary for a person to be president, and the qualities that make a president effective?