

## **EQ #11- What is the difference between a primary & general election?**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6weSABfMMnM>
- Read the handout and MARK it UP! Look for key information about the types of elections and their differences.
- Do NOT fill out your grid yet!

# U.S. Elections

- The U.S. has MANY elections because there are many offices in a federal system.
- **There are TWO basic** types of elections in the U.S.
  - Primary Elections
  - General Elections



# Video- Elections in US

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6weSABfMMnM>

# What is a Primary Election?

- **Primary Elections-** Are elections that take place in Spring before general elections
- **Purpose-** To choose the party's final candidate who will run for election in November.
- **TWO types of primary elections**
  1. Direct Primary (three types)
  2. Caucus

# Primary Elections

- **Direct Primary-**

- Uses a secret ballot vote like general elections.
- Is MORE common than caucus
- Oregon uses Direct Primary

- **Caucus-**

- Is a LESS common form of primary
- Uses a town hall meeting format for discussion and public voting
- Facilitates discussion but takes a long time

# Voting

- **States and political parties decide which type of primary they will use.**
- **Caucus** – Iowa is always first and most famous.
- **Direct Primary**- Most states use a form of this style; New Hampshire is first

# THREE Types of Direct Primaries

- 1 **Open-** Any registered voter can vote as either a Democrat or Republican. Includes “independent” voters.
- 2 **Closed-** Only registered Democrats and Republicans can vote; leaves out Independents (MOST COMMON; OR is closed)
- 3 **Semi-Closed-** Includes unaffiliated voters

# General Elections

- **General Elections**- Choose the office holder. “Final heat”
  - Take place in November (first Tuesday) as indicated by the Constitution
  - The final D and R candidate face off to determine who wins elected office
  - Everyone gets the same ballot
- **Film Clip**-<http://study.com/academy/lesson/primary-election-versus-general-election-definition-differences.html>



# Graphic Organizer

- Complete a Graphic Organizer in your INB LEFT side

**Who**

**What?**

**When?**

**Votes?**

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Direct Open

Direct Closed

Direct Blanket

Caucus

General

# Warm-Up-INB

## **Primary / General / Caucus / Open Primary Closed Primary / SEMI- Closed Primary**

1. Any registered voter can vote
2. Only registered Democrats and Republicans can vote
3. Chooses office holder
4. Independent/non-affiliated voters can vote
5. Chooses Major Party Candidate
6. Pick a ballot; can decide if R or D when you vote; includes independent/unaffiliated voters.
7. Type of primary that uses meetings NOT ballot.