## Race Against the Clock:

## "RAC - Presidential Elections"

- Type your Name, Class, and Date on your paper...
- Press "Enter" 1 time ...
- Turn your "Numbering" on...
- Begin typing... (type everything in each sentence, do not shorten the sentences)
- Save as: RAC-Presidential Elections, [today's date]
- © EVERYONE PRINTS BEFORE LEAVING... (print when you finish or when time is called)
- Return this paper to the front table...
- 1. During the 1872 election, presidential incumbent Ulysses S. Grant ran against a corpse. His opponent, Horace Greely, died before the election was finalized. Grant one the election.
- 2. The 1800 election year was so heated the vice president Aaron Burr ended up killing Alexander Hamilton in a duel.
- 3. It is illegal to drink alcohol in Kentucky and South Carolina on Election Day.
- 4. Few other parts of the Constitution have been criticized as the Electoral College because it can deny the will of the people. And it has in four elections.
- 5. When Democrat Stephen A. Douglas called Abraham Lincoln "To-faced" during election year, Lincoln replied," If I had another face to you think I would wear this one?"
- 6. The constitution does not state when Election Day should be, which meant that in the early 1800s, people could vote from April to December.
- 7. In 1845, Congress decided that voting would be the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, which was after the fall harvest and before winter conditions made travel too difficult.
- 8. Andrew Jackson's inauguration party was so wild that Jackson snuck out of the white house and spent the night at a hotel.
- 9. Before 1804, the presidential candidate who received the second highest electoral votes became vice-president.
- 10. Norman Thomas of the socialist party ran for president more times than anyone in history. He ran 6 times but was never elected
- 11. John Adams complained that the only reason George Washington was 'chosen for everything," including president, was because "he was taller than anyone else in the room."

- 12. Until 1937, presidents weren't sworn in until March 4 because it took so long to count and report ballots. In light of better technology, the 20<sup>th</sup> amendment moved inauguration day to noon on January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 13. During the 1920 presidential election, a candidate from a third party, Eugene V. Debs, ran his presidential campaign from prison. He was in jail for opposing WW I. He ultimately won 3% of the popular vote.
- 14. George Washington gave the shortest inauguration speech at 135 words. William Henry Harrison's was the longest at 8,445 words. He spoke for over two hours in a heavy snowstorm, which made him catch a cold and ultimately die from pneumonia.
- 15. The United States is ranked 139<sup>th</sup> out of 172 countries in voter participation.
- 16. The oldest presidential candidate to be elected is Ronal Reagan at 69 years old. The youngest is John F. Kennedy at 34 years old.
- 17. In the year 1984 presidential election, Ronald Reagan received both the highest number of popular votes and the highest number of electoral votes in the history of the U.S. presidential elections. These numbers have yet to be surpassed by another presidential candidate.
- 18. Grover Cleveland is the only candidate ever to be elected in one term, defeated for a second time, and then elected again 4 years later. Thus, he became both the 22<sup>nd</sup> president and the 24<sup>th</sup> president.
- 19. John Quincy Adams is the only president to have lost both the electoral vote and the popular vote and still become president.
- 20. A U.S. president candidate is required to be at least 35 years old, a permanent US resident for at least 14 years and considered a natural US born citizen.
- 21. Barack Obama was the 17<sup>th</sup> president to be elected to at least two terms. Thirteen previous presidents were elected and served at least two terms. Three additional presidents were elected two terms, but did not complete the second term due to assignation and a resignation (Lincoln, McKinley and Dixon)
- 22. The first women to run for U.S President was Victoria Woodhull in 1872, nearly 50 years before the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment allowed women to vote in presidential elections. Her running mate, Frederick Douglass, was the first African American ever nominated for vice President.
- 23. Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected president and astonishing four terms before the second Amendment set term limits.

Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters.