

**The 2016 Quest for the White House**  
**Due: September 7, 2016**

The 2016 presidential election promises to be an exciting time in the history of US politics. There is an excitement amongst the two major parties that stems from the potential to elect the first woman or to elect a business man, TV star and billionaire as president. The spotlight this summer will be on the two major parties conventions. Understanding the convention process is the focus of your BLPA summer assignment.

**Task 1: (Understanding Political Conventions) 20 points**

Go to: <http://people.howstuffworks.com/political-convention.htm>  
("How Political Conventions Work")

Read the information and summarize in your own words why we have conventions and how they work. Your summary should be typed double spaced in Times New Roman size 12 font as a Word or Google document.

**Task 2: (The Convention) 20 points**

Watch the coverage of one of the two major party conventions. The republican convention begins July 18. The democratic convention begins July 25. You can watch the coverage on any of the major news outlets or watch coverage from internet videos that will be prevalent on the Web after the events.

*The conventions last three days, but the primary speeches from the candidates are usually on the last day.*

Answer the following questions about the convention you chose.

1. Which convention did you watch?
2. Why did you chose this convention?
3. What did you think was the most interesting part of the convention? Why?
4. What were the major accomplishments by the delegates at the convention?
5. What were the key points made by the presidential nominee during their acceptance speech? Do you agree with these points? Why or why not?
6. What were the key points made by the vice-presidential nominee during their acceptance speech? Do you agree with these points? Why or why not?

Your answers should be typed double spaced in Times New Roman size 12 font as a Word or Google document.

## BLPA Academy Summer Assignment - 2016

### **Task 3: (Comparing the Two Major Party Platforms) 20 points**

Go to the sites below and read about each party's platform.

<https://www.gop.com/> (The platform link is at the bottom of the page.)

<https://www.democrats.org/> (Scroll to the bottom and look for links to issues.)

Design and complete a detailed Venn diagram of each party's key platform issues.

Write a summary of how each party's platforms are alike and how they are different. Cite evidence from each party's Web site to support your position. Your summary should be typed double spaced in Times New Roman size 12 font as a Word or Google document.

### **Task 4: (Create Your Own Political Ad) 40 points**

**Scenario:** You have just been hired by the local campaign office for the candidate for president of your choice (This candidate can be from any of the political parties not just the two major parties.). Your first assignment is to create an advertisement.

Your ad can be in the form of a campaign poster, radio message (audio), TV spot (video), or newspaper ad (print).

You will present your ad to your classmates during a Flight Time meeting in the fall.

**There are 100 points possible for the entire assignment.**

#### **Instructions for turning your completed project in:**

1. Label each task appropriately
2. Print all documents with your name on it
3. Staple as much as possible together in the order of the tasks
4. The assignment must be turned in by September 7. Presentations will begin on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Or your Flight Time teacher may request you to turn your assignment in via Canvas. Please consult with your teacher at the beginning of school.