**Electoral College Scavenger Hunt** Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pd. \_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Each question is hyperlinked to a website to help you find the correct answer. Feel free to use outside resources to help you answer these questions. While you do this assignment, you should be evaluating your feelings towards the Electoral College system.

**I.** [**Historical Viewpoint**](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/20/opinion/20thu1.html?_r=0)**:**

1. Why did the Founders of the Constitution establish an Electoral College to choose the president rather than allowing citizens to directly choose the president?

2. Explain how the issue of slavery is connected to the Electoral College.

**II.** [**How the Electoral College Works**](http://www.learnnc.org/lp/media/lessons/davidwalbert7232004-02/electoralcollege.html)**?** (This [video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ok_VQ8I7g6I) and this [video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9H3gvnN468) might be helpful too)

1. List the steps of the Electoral College numerically (use as few words as possible).

**III.** [**The Electors**](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html)**:**

1. What are the constitutional qualifications for becoming an elector?

2. How do most political parties go about choosing electors?

3. Does Maryland legally require electors to vote on behalf of Maryland’s popular vote? Why do you think many states have laws that punish electors that vote against the will of their state’s popular vote?

**IV.** [**Controversial Presidential Elections:**](http://archive.fairvote.org/e_college/controversial.htm) Fill in the chart below in order to describe why each of these elections were controversial.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Election** | **List the Candidates Involved** | **Explain why this election is considered controversial.** |
| Election of **1800** |  |  |
| Election of **1824** |  |  |
| Election of **1876** |  |  |
| Election of **2000** |  |  |

**V. The Debate FOR and AGAINST the Electoral College:**

- Lots of [information](http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/electoralcoll.htm) on both sides

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| List at least three reasons why we should keep using the Electoral College. | List at least three reasons why we should replace the Electoral College. |
|  |  |

***\*On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph PERSUADING the public whether we should keep or change the Electoral College\****