



Meaning Maker.org

- Meaning Maker U.S. Presidential Elections Edition provides a structure for making the most of your democratic American citizenship.

**Your personal tool for a
“Value Added” experience.**

- Organize your thoughts and cultivate purpose every time you consider going to the voting booth or feel concern about how your tax dollars are being spent.
- Carry Meaning Maker with you during election season. Consult before marking your ballot.
- Over time, Meaning Maker U.S. Presidential Elections Edition will help you determine if you are an effective citizen, or if you should become an expat and immigrate to another country.
- Meaning Maker U.S. Presidential Elections Edition is good for boasting about your candidate, developing your talking points, understanding your enemies, validating your citizenship and voting decisions, blogging, preparing for debates, writing to your representatives or *letters to the editor*, developing guilt and subsequently good citizenship, mentoring future engaged citizens, and moving beyond the rhetoric of mainstream media.

Meaning Maker comes in a variety of experiences.
Download and print Meaning Makers
for all of your needs and predicaments.

Feel free to log onto meaningmaker.org
to share your Meaning Maker experience.

HISTORY (*election knowledge*)

Identify the date for these U.S. historic landmarks

women’s right to vote	1880	1920	1940
first vote by male African Americans	1868	1940	1968
law prohibiting poll taxes and literacy tests	1892	1928	1966
first presidential election	1640	1788	1820
first movie star president	1972	1976	1980
first woman vice-presidential nomination	1848	1984	2008
first African American president	1984	2004	2008

Recognized slogans, phrases and buzz words:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flip Flop | <input type="checkbox"/> Birther | <input type="checkbox"/> Drill baby Drill! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I’m with her | <input type="checkbox"/> Hope | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes We Can |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sí se puede | <input type="checkbox"/> I Like Ike | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens United |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Believe in America | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe the Plumber | <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Yourself a Farm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restore America Now | <input type="checkbox"/> Where’s the beef? | <input type="checkbox"/> Feel the Bern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whip Inflation Now | <input type="checkbox"/> The Buck Stops Here | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Old Party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Happy Days Are Here Again | <input type="checkbox"/> We are the 99% | <input type="checkbox"/> Power to the people |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workers of the world, unite! | <input type="checkbox"/> Arbeit Macht Frei | <input type="checkbox"/> Super PACs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tippecanoe and Tyler too | <input type="checkbox"/> Read my lips | <input type="checkbox"/> Putting People First |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It’s The Economy, Stupid | <input type="checkbox"/> I’m just wild about Harry | <input type="checkbox"/> Ross for Boss |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remember Pearl Harbor | <input type="checkbox"/> Compassionate conservatism | <input type="checkbox"/> Hanging Chads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make America Great Again | <input type="checkbox"/> A chicken in every pot and a car in every garage | <input type="checkbox"/> Not just Peanuts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve | <input type="checkbox"/> Hey, Hey, LBJ, how many kids you kill today? | |

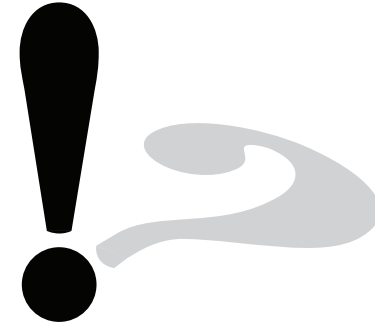
ENGAGEMENT (*citizen action*)

Ways to encourage young people to vote:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> fine people who don’t vote | <input type="checkbox"/> vote by texting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> change the voting age to ten | <input type="checkbox"/> reinstate the draft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> require proof of voting to buy beer | <input type="checkbox"/> give prizes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> let them redesign the political system | <input type="checkbox"/> serve pizza |
| <input type="checkbox"/> institute required media literacy in all schools | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> require proof of voting to receive entitlements | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recitation of the national debt daily in school | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> involve them in local issues when young | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> send them to right wing/ left wing boot camps | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> school curricula that develops critical thinking | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> distribute Meaning Maker in the cafeteria | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> require proof of voting to acquire a driver’s licence | |

Citizens shouldn’t complain if they:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> don’t donate to their party | <input type="checkbox"/> aren’t white |
| <input type="checkbox"/> are not real American citizens | <input type="checkbox"/> were born elsewhere |
| <input type="checkbox"/> haven’t researched the issues | <input type="checkbox"/> don’t really care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vote based on political sound bites | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> don’t volunteer in community organizations | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> keep their money in Swiss bank accounts | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> make over seven million dollars per year | |



Meaning Maker.org

U.S. Presidential Elections

Instructions:

Complete every four years. File for future reference.

Voting District _____

Election Year _____

The Candidates _____

This is Art.

MY PRACTICE (personal history)

I vote in the following:

	always	sometimes	never
primary elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
presidential elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
local issue elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reality TV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pepsi or Coke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The first President I voted for was:	_____		

I vote to:

- vote? feel good set an example
- get the neat sticker take time off work
- I have never voted make my voice heard
- have something to talk about
- advance issues important to me
- honor freedom and the right to vote
- cancel a vote for a mainstream party
- keep or put red/blue in the White House

I would likely vote more often if:

- I could vote online I was registered
- I could vote via Facebook I could read
- candidates were honest it was entertaining
- there were treats they served beer
- I was allowed citizenship it paid cash
- there were more options I had a babysitter
- my vote made a difference I had a photo ID
- the campaign was about ideas
- campaigns were not so negative
- elections were not on Tuesdays
- candidates didn't have jello brains
- I understood what it was all about
- I hadn't committed that felony
- I didn't work three jobs just to pay the rent
- we did not have a dominate, two party system

I fully understand these election terms:

- democracy right wing
- gerrymandering left wing
- caucuses conservative
- electoral college political action committee
- white lie liberal
- fillabuster open/closed primaries
- impeach Super PAC

I would consider voting for candidates from the:

- Constitution Party Coffee Party
- Democratic Party Corporate Party
- Green Party Occupy Party
- Libertarian Party Republican Party
- Independent Socialist Party
- Natural Law Party Twitter Party
- Tea Party My Birthday Party
- Marijuana Party Communist Party

MEDIA (information and source)

I make my voting decisions based on:

- television advertisements seances
- Dada experiments family history
- my spouse's opinions extensive research
- candidates' gender multiple guess
- candidate debates my local news
- my spiritual leader's advice my bullshit index
- retired four-star generals my conscious
- online sources and blogs talk radio
- I consult my Ouiji board Fox News
- candidates' religion late night TV
- candidates' ethnicity Mother Jones
- creating patterns on my ballot reading everything
- candidates' photogenic qualities NPR commentary
- recommendations from organizations I belong to
- lively debates with friends, neighbors and colleagues

MY VOTE (perceptions and values)

Issues of concern:

	Less Critical	1	2	3	4	5	Critical
immigration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
abortion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
world peace /war	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LGBTQ rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
unions/worker's rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
national debt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
military strength	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
economy/jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
health care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
corporate influence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
entitlements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
pharmaceutical issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
prison industrial complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
income gap	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
women's rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
nuclear proliferation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
terrorism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
gas prices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
equal rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
black lives matter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
social security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
corporate personhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
colony collapse disorder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
medical marijuana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
lobbyists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fracking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

My Candidate's Qualities:

	less important	1	2	3	4	5	important
knows the facts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
honest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
smarts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
likability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
charisma	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
good looks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
knowledge of history	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
business success	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
political experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
highly educated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
religious beliefs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
willingness to compromise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fashion sense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
willing to admit errors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
questions the status quo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
unwavering on social issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
favors country over party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
international experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sense of humor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
spontaneity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
good old boy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
history of public service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

My candidate most likely:

- speaks truth to power has a victory garden
- will shake up the system is a maverick
- drives an American car respects science
- admits to smoking pot has a hot spouse
- plays well with others is a veteran
- reads books for pleasure talks to God
- is a target of the NRA is a patriot
- believes in the one true God can do no wrong
- doesn't need Viagra is a NASCAR fan
- believes in creationism believes in evolution
- will be faithful to their spouse is white
- gets slammed by the media is male
- is comfortable not believing in God is green
- is rich or has access to large amounts of money
- knows the cost of a gallon of milk and a loaf of bread

My candidate's opponent is probably:

- vegan an atheist an alien
- dishonest delusional out of touch
- a socialist a vampire seeking a book deal
- a lawyer a liar communist
- a puppet guilty pure party stock
- a bigot evil sexually deviant
- a hater bald strategic, not smart
- not really an American all about themselves
- an occupant of Wall street
- for and against issues based on audience
- running their own campaign