

Two Whats?! And A Wow!- Election Special

By Anna Zagorski

ROUND 1

Announcer. And now for everyone's second-favorite game show after exercising your right to vote... it's Two Whats?! And A Wow!

(Two Whats?! And A Wow! Theme song)

Announcer. With your hosts, Mindy and Guy Raz!

Mindy. Hello and welcome to Two Whats?! And A Wow!

Guy Raz. The scientific game show that separates the wows from the whats!

Mindy. But in this special episode we're talking about another kind of science, political science!

(Soundbite of crowd ooohs.)

Guy Raz. That's right Mindy! As you may know, the presidential election is right around the corner on Tuesday, November 5th!

Mindy. And while most of you might not be old enough to cast your vote this year, you're never too young to be an informed citizen!

Guy Raz. That's right Mindy! And there's so many ways you can be involved, no matter how old you are!

Mindy. So we've decided to team up with our friends at The Week Junior to learn all about elections.

Guy Raz. The category for today's special round of Two Whats?! And A Wow! is...

(Soundbite of a drum roll.)

Guy Raz. ...Elections! Mindy, why don't you refresh our contestants on how the game works?

Mindy. You know it! Wowzers, in each of our three rounds today, Guy Raz and I will present you with three statements about elections. But, and this is a big but, only

one of those statements will be a true wow! The other two, just a couple of made up whats!

(Soundbite of cheering.)

Mindy. In each round if you guess correctly, congratulations! You get a point! But, if you guess incorrectly, you must stop, drop, and do a ridiculous physical challenge!

Guy Raz. And for this special election edition of Two Whats?! And A Wow!, all of the winning Wows will come from junior council members of The Week Junior!

(Soundbite of audience cheer.)

Guy Raz. Okay! Everyone ready to start the game?

(Soundbite of audience applause.)

Mindy. Great, then let's get to it!

Guy Raz. Round one. Which of the following statements best describes the Electoral College? Is it A) The Electoral College is where George Washington went to school.

Mindy. Or is it B) The Electoral College is a group of people who elect the President and Vice President of the United States based on which candidate received the most votes in their state.

Guy Raz. Or is it C) The Electoral College is just another name for Congress.

Mindy. When you think you have the correct answer, shout it out like a campaign slogan.

(Soundbite of audience laughing.)

Mindy. Reggie, psst!

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Cue the thinking music!

Reggie. Coo coo!

(Soundbite of a tape player button then thinking music.)

Guy Raz. Annnnd time is up! Let's now reveal the winning wow!

Mindy. And to do just that, let's hear from The Week Junior council member. Aleen from Pennsylvania! Aleen, take it away!

Aleen. Hi, my name is Aleen and I'm a junior council member at The Week Junior. I live in Pennsylvania and my wow is that the Electoral College is a group of people who elect the President and Vice President of the United States based on which candidate received the most votes in their state.

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Winner winner, college for dinner!

Guy Raz. Thank you, Aleen! Contestants, if you guessed the answer B) that the Electoral College is a group of people who elect the President and Vice President, well, congratulations! You found the winning wow!

Mindy. That's right, Guy Raz! The winner of the presidential election is not necessarily the candidate who receives the most votes on election day. Rather, it's the candidate who receives the most electoral votes with a very special group called "the Electoral College!"

Guy Raz. The Electoral College is a group made up of 538 people, or electors, from all fifty states and the District of Columbia. Each state gets one elector for every representative and senator they have in Congress.

Mindy. Because the number of representatives a state has depends on its population, or people or citizens who live there, the more citizens you have, the more electors you get!

Guy Raz. That's right, Mindy! This year for example, California, the most populated state in the US, has fifty four electors whereas a state with a smaller population like Delaware only has three electors!

Mindy. And each elector has one vote!

Guy Raz. All a candidate needs to win the presidency is just two hundred and seventy electoral votes! No big deal, right?!

(Soundbite of audience laughs.)

Guy Raz. Well, congratulations to all our winning Wowzers! Mindy, what's today's prize?

Mindy. Guy Raz, today's winning Wowzers will all be taking home their very own campaign slogan!

Guy Raz. Um Mindy, I don't think we can put campaign slogans in the prize cannon.

Mindy. Oh yes we can, Guy Raz! Reggie!

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Cue the prize cannon!

Reggie. Coo coo coo!

Mindy. Fire away!

Guy Raz. No!

Reggie. Coo!

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Look at them go, they're all so catchy!

Guy Raz. Well, that's all the time we have for today! But the wow doesn't stop here!

Mindy. Oh no, there are so many there are so many ways you can get involved on election day or even after election day!

Guy Raz. For instance, did you know that kids can go to the polls on election day?! Kids in all fifty U.S. states, and the District of Columbia can attend the polls with a parent or guardian.

Mindy. That's right, Guy Raz! And even if you're not old enough to vote yet, you always have a voice! You can call or write your representatives about issues that matter to you. You can even write a letter to the President of the United States!

Guy Raz. That's right Mindy! And for issues that you care about in your local community, you can also attend or speak at local city council meetings.

Mindy. And in some cities, like San Diego, California, there are "mayor for the day" contests, where a student can shadow their Mayor to learn what it's like being a civic leader firsthand!

Guy Raz. Well, thank you all for listening, and to our friends from The Week Junior for joining us on this special round of Two Whats?! And a Wow! If you want to keep the fun going even longer, be sure to come back for another round of Two Whats?! And A Wow!

Guy Raz. Until then...

Mindy and Guy. ...Keep on wowing!

(Two Whats?! And A Wow! Theme song)

ROUND 2

Announcer. And now for everyone's second-favorite game show after exercising your right to vote... it's Two Whats?! And A Wow!

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Guy Raz. The scientific game show that separates the wows from the whats!

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(Soundbite of crowd ooohs.)

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Guy Raz. The category for today's special round of Two Whats?! And A Wow! is...

(Soundbite of a drum roll.)

Guy Raz. ...Elections! Mindy, why don't you refresh our contestants on how the game works?

Mindy. You know it! Wowzers, in each of our three rounds today, Guy Raz and I will present you with three statements about elections. But, and this is a big but, only one of those statements will be a true Wow! The other two, just a couple of made up whats!

(Soundbite of cheering.)

Mindy. In each round if you guess correctly, congratulations! You get a point! But, if you guess incorrectly, you must stop, drop, and do a ridiculous physical challenge!

Guy Raz. And for this special election edition of Two Whats?! And A Wow!, all of the winning Wows will come from junior council members of The Week Junior!

(Soundbite of audience cheer.)

Guy Raz. Okay! Everyone ready to start the game?

(Soundbite of audience applause.)

Mindy. Great, then let's get to it!

Guy Raz. Round two. Which of the following statements about ancient elections is the true wow?! Is it A) In ancient Sparta, candidates were elected based on the volume of a crowd's applause.

Mindy. Or is it B) In ancient Greece, kids were allowed to vote!

Guy Raz. Or is it C) To vote in ancient Rome, you had to sing your favorite candidate's name at the voting booth!

Mindy. When you think you have the correct answer, shout it out in your most presidential screaming voice.

(Soundbite of laughter then thinking music.)

Guy Raz. And time is up! Let's now reveal the winning wow!

Mindy. And to do just that, let's hear from another junior council member at The Week Junior, Aiden from Washington! Aiden, what's the wow?!

Aiden. Hi, my name is Aiden and I'm a junior council member at The Week Junior, and I live in Washington. My wow is that in ancient Sparta, candidates were elected based on the volume of a crowd's applause!

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Winner winner, applause for dinner!

Guy Raz. That's right, Aiden! Wowzers, if you guessed A), that candidates were elected based on crowd applause in ancient Sparta, well, congratulations! You found the winning wow!

Mindy. Cue the applause Wowzers! It's true Spartans would cheer for their favorite candidates and the winner of the election was whichever candidate had the loudest cheers according to judges hidden in another room!

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Aw, thanks for voting for me!

Guy Raz. Ugh. Well, congratulations to all our winning Wowzers! Mindy, what's today's prize?

Mindy. Guy Raz, today's winning Wowzers will all be taking home their very own campaign slogan!

Guy Raz. Um Mindy, I don't think we can put campaign slogans in the prize cannon.

Mindy. Oh yes we can, Guy Raz! Reggie!

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Cue the prize cannon!

Reggie. Coo coo coo!

Mindy. Fire away!

Guy Raz. No!

Reggie. Coo!

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Look at them go, they're all so catchy!

Guy Raz. Well, that's all the time we have for today! But the wow doesn't stop here!

Mindy. Oh no, there are so many there are so many ways you can get involved on election day or even after election day!

Guy Raz. For instance, did you know that kids can go to the polls on election day?! Kids in all fifty U.S. states, and the District of Columbia can attend the polls with a parent or guardian.

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Mindy. And in some cities, like San Diego, California, there are "mayor for the day" contests, where a student can shadow their Mayor to learn what it's like being a civic leader firsthand!

Guy Raz. Well, thank you all for listening, and to our friends from The Week Junior for joining us on this special round of Two Whats?! And a Wow! If you want to keep the fun going even longer, be sure to come back for another round of Two Whats?! And A Wow!

Guy Raz. Until then...

Mindy and Guy. ...Keep on wowing!

(Two Whats?! And A Wow! Theme song)

ROUND 3

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Guy Raz. And for this special election edition of Two Whats?! And A Wow!, all of the winning Wows will come from junior council members of The Week Junior!

(Soundbite of audience cheer.)

Guy Raz. Okay! Everyone ready to start the game?

(Soundbite of audience applause.)

Mindy. Great, then let's get to it!

Guy Raz. Okay, time for round three! Which of the following statements is a true wow about voting?! Is it A) In the case of a tie in the Senate, the Vice President is the tie breaking vote!

Mindy. Or is it B) Former presidents are not allowed to vote in presidential elections.

Guy Raz. Or is it C) Gramma G-Force has voted in every election since 1800.

Mindy. When you think you have the correct answer, hum the Star Spangled Banner with your mouth closed!

(Soundbite of a tape player button then thinking music.)

Guy Raz. And time is up! Let's now reveal the winning wow!

Mindy. And to do just that, let's hear from a junior council member at The Week Junior, Brennan from Montana! Brennan, tell us what's the winning wow?!

Brennan. Hi, my name is Brennan and I'm a junior council member at The Week Junior, and I live in Montana. My wow is that the Vice President is the tie breaking vote in the Senate!

(Soundbite of audience cheering.)

Mindy. Winner winner, ties for dinner!

Guy Raz. That's right, Brennan! Wowzers, if you guessed A) that in the case of a tie in the Senate, the Vice President is the tie breaking vote, well, congratulations! You found the winning wow!

Mindy. Throughout the year, senators vote on bills, amendments, motions, and a whole lot more! And since there are one hundred senators, sometimes there can be a fifty-fifty tie!

Guy Raz. And one of the duties of the Vice President is being the President of the Senate! Which means the VP gets to be the deciding vote in the case of a tie!

Mindy. In the case of a bow tie, it's a whole different process!

(Soundbite of audience laughing.)

Mindy. Now if you did not get that answer correct, you must stop, drop, and recite the Declaration of Independence upside down!

(Soundbite of audience laughing.)

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