

03003

ERA 3: REVOLUTION AND THE NEW NATION (1754–1820S)

ERA 10: CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES

(1968 – TO THE PRESENT)

THEMES: POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP, REFORM

## THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE: HOW IT GOT THIS WAY AND WHY WE'RE STUCK WITH IT



On the electoral college campus / L.M. Glackens.

### Guiding Questions

Why did the Founders settle on the creation of the Electoral College?

How does the Electoral College reflect the political principles of the American Founding?

Should the Electoral College be abolished?

### Question Focus Examples for Task 24

The Electoral College will never be abolished.

### Teacher-to-Teacher

Students must have an understanding about the struggles experienced by the delegates at the Constitutional Convention in developing a national chief executive. Both the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan identify for students some of the options discussed by the delegates regarding the creation of this office. Once the office of the President of the United States was created, Publius defends its creation and mode of election through the Electoral College in Federalist 68. Finally, the article, “The Electoral College: How It Got This Way and Why We’re Stuck With It,” brings these issues together in explaining why it is that the Electoral College, though often criticized, is not likely to be abolished or altered.

### Contents

- ❖ **The Electoral College: How It Got This Way and Why We’re Stuck With It** ARTICLE
- ❖ **The Virginia Plan** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **The New Jersey Plan** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **Federalist 68** DOCUMENT
- ❖ **Americans Call for Term Limits, End to Electoral College. Gallup.com.** CHART

### Recommended Instructional Tasks

#### Task 1

Wrestle with an Argument: Close Reading of an Argumentative Text

#### Task 7

Close Reading: Focus Question

#### Task 8

Analyze and Compare Author Purpose

#### Task 10

Question the Author

#### Task 13

Form/Content/Context

#### Task 23

Identifying Claim and Evidence

#### Task 24

QFT (Question Focus Technique)

#### Task 25

Document Sourcing

**fourscore**  
make history