

US election: Clinton vs Trump?

The prospect of a Hillary Clinton-Donald Trump matchup in November is edging closer



Hillary Clinton
DEMOCRAT
68 years old



Donald Trump
REPUBLICAN
69 years old

THE PERSON

From Chicago, born Hillary Rodham
Former secretary of state, former first lady, and the first female partner of her Arkansas law firm

From Queens, New York
Billionaire real estate tycoon and former reality TV star

POLITICS

Started her own formal political career as a Democratic senator in 2000, after working on health care reform plans as first lady

Strong support from women Democrats and minorities

Considered on the right of mainstream Republicanism

Popular with grassroots conservatives, white working and middle classes

PROMISES

- ▶ Gradual reform of Wall Street
- ▶ Tighten gun laws
- ▶ Expand university scholarships
- ▶ Immigration reform to simplify citizenship for illegal migrants
- ▶ Support action against climate change
- ▶ Allow Syrian refugees

- ▶ A wall on the Mexican border
- ▶ Deport millions of illegal immigrants
- ▶ To "stand up to China"
- ▶ "Make America great again"
- ▶ Doubt man-made climate change
- ▶ Make US allies pay for US military presence
- ▶ Get rid of Obama's affordable healthcare

REPUTATION

Torchbearer of American women, has talked of the need to address racism and economic disparities

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Reputation for talking tough, "say-it-as-it-is" honesty, disdain for the "political class", controversial comments about women, Mexicans and Muslims

Adapted from <http://www.20read.com/us/trump-clinton-white-house-races-unpopular-winners/>

A. Use the prompts to talk about the candidates' platforms.

1. *If elected, he/she will...*
2. *He/She wants to... in order to...*
3. *Considering his/her profile, he/she is going to launch policies in favor of... For example he/she may...*
4. *As soon as he/she gets elected, he/she will probably/is likely to... so there won't be... anymore.*

B. In pairs, read these profiles and decide with your partner who they are most likely to vote for. Give reasons to justify your choices.

1. John Dewis – New Yorker – journalist – works in a charity helping the homeless – in a relationship with Mark – ready to pay more taxes.
2. Marsha Jones – mother of 6 – stay-at-home Mom, does some secretarial work for her husband's business – member of the local shooting club – proud of her elder son who came back from Afghanistan with a medal.
3. Ricardo Haroy – in the U.S. for 10 years – American citizen since 2011 – has opened a small business but feels insecure (his shop has been attacked twice) – has bought a rifle.
4. Betty Crane – husband died in Iraq – has been struggling financially ever since, can only find minimum-wage jobs – two children, the elder turned 18 – her 72-year-old mother works in a supermarket.

C. Convincing a friend – GROUP WORK



Kate and Linda are great fiends but totally disagree when it comes to politics: Kate supports Hillary Clinton, whereas Linda is a great fan of Donald Trump. They meet Deb, a friend they have in common. Deb doesn't know who to vote for and doesn't even know if she will go and vote in November. Kate and Linda try to convince her.

Here is Deb's profile:

Deb – 31 – her husband lost his job last year and he blames the competition of illegal workers for it – her mother, 54, needs surgery but couldn't pay for it – Greenpeace supporter – defender of the 2nd amendment, goes to a shooting club – has great ambitions for her son Sean, 5, but at the moment couldn't pay for university fees.