**Democracy & Participation: 5.1 Electoral System in the USA**

**Noting guidance**

1. Read pages 414-415 and watch this video clip, define what Primaries and Caucuses are: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_95I_1rZiIs&app=desktop>

(*be warned, the video is fast, so you’ll need to watch it a couple of times, with a pause button handy whilst you note!*). This video is also useful for answering the next task.

1. What significance do primaries and caucuses (the *Primary Season*) have on presidential elections?
2. What is the invisible primary? (pp. 416-417)

Extension: Read this article: <http://theconversation.com/the-invisible-primary-number-one-36871> and summarise why invisible primaries are so important to the presidential election process.

1. What significant and superficial role did the National Party Conventions of 2016 play for both the Democratic and Republican parties? (pp. 418-419)
2. Explain what the Electoral College is and briefly how it works (p.419-420). To help your understandings and answer, watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9H3gvnN468&app=desktop>
3. What are the key advantages and disadvantages of being an incumbent in a presidential election? (pp. 421-422).
4. Prepare a 12 marker (e.g. 3 full paragraphs) on why achieving campaign finance reform is so difficult (pp. 423-425).