

1. In the 2000 election, Ralph Nader won the Green Party nomination for president of the United States. While he trailed the Democratic and Republican candidates in the polls by a wide margin, Nader attracted large audiences in campaign appearances across the country.

In an interview from 2016, Nader discussed the challenges he faced in his campaign for president. “But there are only two that get on the presidential debate—Republican and Democrat—because they control the gate. . . . Had I got on the debates in my presidential run, I would—in one debate, I would have reached more people, by 50-fold, than I reached by filling all the major arenas. . . .”

“Never mind that you represent majoritarian positions, like full Medicare for all, like loosening up the electoral process so more people can get in and run and vote. It doesn’t matter that you represent majoritarian positions that are taken off the table by the Republican and Democratic Party.”

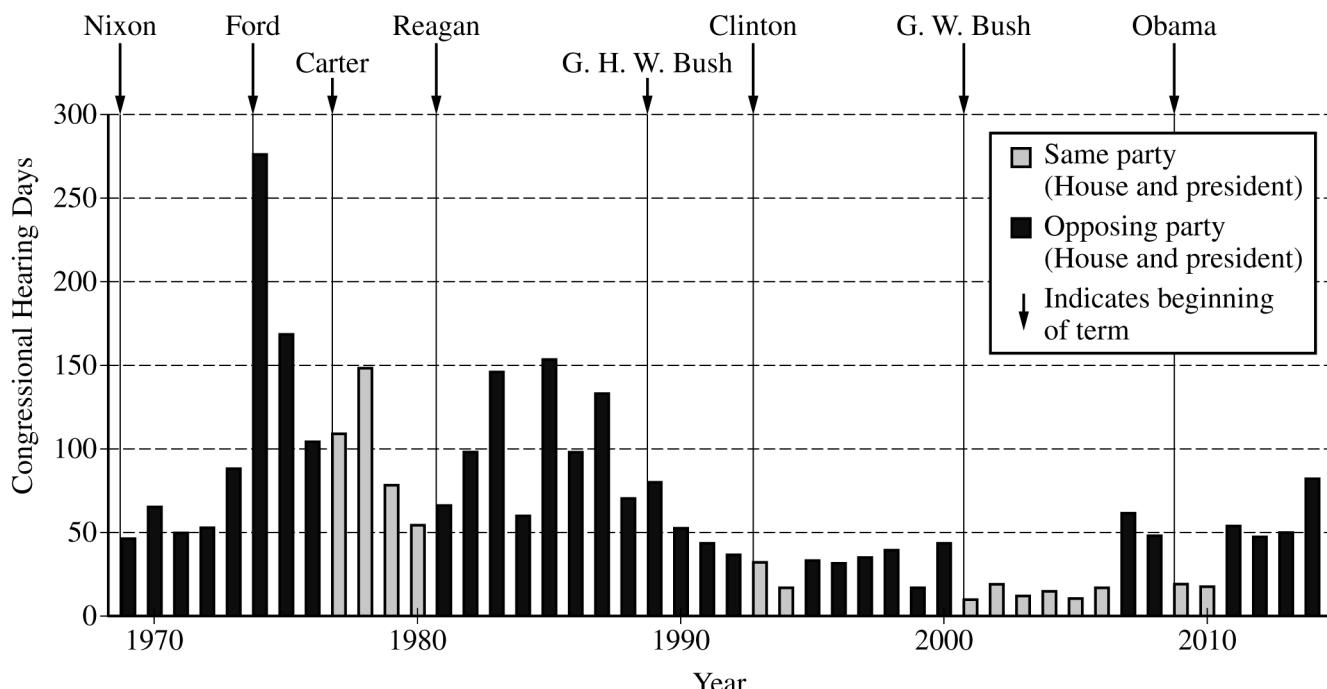
After reading the scenario, please respond to A, B, and C below.

- A. Describe a structural barrier in the scenario that makes it less likely that a third-party candidate will be able to secure enough popular support to justify including the candidate in a debate.
- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how a third-party candidate could still have an influence on public policy despite the barrier described in part A.
- C. Explain how including the third-party candidate in the scenario could have had a positive impact on participatory democracy.

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**Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.**

## CONGRESSIONAL HEARING DAYS IN THE HOUSE THAT INVESTIGATED THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, 1969–2014



Source: Data from Kriner and Schickler, 2016

2. Use the bar graph to answer the following questions.

- Using the bar graph, identify the president who faced the fewest number of investigative hearing days in a single year when the House was controlled by the opposing party.
- Describe the relationship between investigative hearing days and party control of the House and the presidency as shown in the bar graph.
- Draw a conclusion about how the difference in congressional hearing days between 1970–1980 and 1990–2000 may have affected presidential power during those periods.
- Explain whether the data in the bar graph for the years in which the president's party controlled the House reflect Madison's ideas in *The Federalist 51*.

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## Question 1: Concept Application

3 points

- A. Describe a structural barrier in the scenario that makes it less likely that a third-party candidate will be able to secure enough popular support to justify including the candidate in a debate. **1 point**

**Acceptable descriptions include:**

- The winner-take-all electoral system discourages voters from supporting third-party candidates because they are less likely to win, so third-party candidates rarely have enough support to be included in debates.

- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how a third-party candidate could still have an influence on public policy despite the barrier described in part A. **1 point**

**Acceptable explanations include:**

- Even though third-party candidates like Ralph Nader generally are unable to secure any electors in the electoral college, they sometimes are able to influence public policy by raising awareness of issues which leads to the major parties adopting that platform.

- C. Explain how including the third-party candidate in the scenario could have had a positive impact on participatory democracy. **1 point**

**Acceptable explanations include:**

- Participatory democracy encourages broad engagement, and the inclusion of a third-party candidate in a debate will expand the appeal of the election among more citizens by bringing in more people and ideas.
- A third-party candidate like Nader will usually expand the range of issues of interest to the public. This could motivate people to participate in politics.

Total for question 1 **3 points**