

1. In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act. It established the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as an independent agency within the federal bureaucracy responsible for aeronautics, space research, and exploration.

On September 12, 1962, President John F. Kennedy addressed a stadium crowd of 40,000 people at Rice University. The speech, officially titled “We Choose to Go to the Moon,” came just one year after the Soviet Union launched the first person into space and five years after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first satellite into space. The purpose of the speech was to increase support for Kennedy’s proposal to launch a mission to the Moon and explain why this program needed to be a high budget priority. The event was the lead story in *The New York Times* and was covered in newspapers around the country.

President Kennedy talked about scientific progress and how the space mission represented a major step forward for humankind:

“We choose to go to the Moon in this decade . . . not because [it is] easy, but because [it is] hard. . . .”

Landing a person on the Moon represented an enormous challenge, and many doubted it could be done within a decade. But on July 20, 1969, NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first person to step foot on the Moon’s surface.

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

- A. Describe the informal power used by the president in the scenario.
- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how the power described in part A could have impacted Congressional oversight.
- C. Explain how NASA could have impacted the implementation of the president’s agenda described in the scenario.

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.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF 18–24 YEAR OLDS, 2018 AND 2020 ELECTION CYCLE

Tried to convince other youth to vote



Donated money to a campaign



Attended a march or demonstration



Registered others to vote



Volunteered for a political campaign



2018 (Midterm) 2020 (Presidential)

Source: CIRCLE/Tisch College, 2020

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

- A. Identify the form of political participation that saw the largest change between the 2018 and 2020 elections, as shown in the bar graph.
- B. Describe the difference in overall participation between the midterm and presidential elections, as shown in the bar graph.
- C. Draw a conclusion about how linkage institutions might have contributed to the difference in political participation between the midterm and presidential elections, as shown in the bar graph.
- D. Explain how the different levels of political participation, as shown in the bar graph, might demonstrate the concept of political efficacy.

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.

Question 1: Concept Application

3 points

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- A. Describe the informal power used by the president in the scenario. 1 point

Acceptable descriptions include:

- By giving this speech, President Kennedy used the power to persuade by directly communicating with the public and gain support for his agenda.
- The president used the bully pulpit when he gave his speech.

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- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how the power described in part A could have impacted Congressional oversight. 1 point

Acceptable explanations include:

- The president's speech could have encouraged voters to pressure Congress to oversee implementation of the president's agenda, like holding a hearing on space exploration.
- By bringing more attention to his agenda, the president's speech could have encouraged opponents in Congress to call for greater oversight of NASA's activities.

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- C. Explain how NASA could have impacted the implementation of the president's agenda described in the scenario. 1 point

Acceptable explanations include:

- By using its discretionary authority, NASA could have chosen how to best carry out the mission to the moon.
- NASA could have used its rulemaking authority to create the regulations that the mission to the moon will follow.
- The bureaucracy could have used its discretionary and rulemaking authority to address President Kennedy's policy agenda.

Total for question 1 3 points