**Presidential Debates Watch Sheet**

**SHORT RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

1. List the candidates who participated in the Debate and their political party (Republican, Democrat, Independent, Green, etc.). Candidate Political Party

2. Where was the debate held & when was it held?

3. Who sponsored the debate?

4. Name 3–5 issues that were covered in the debate (see “Issues”).

a. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. What are 5–6 words or phrases that describe your thoughts and feelings about the debate?

6. From which exchange did you learn the most?

a. Who was the exchange between?

b. What was the issue?

c. What did you learn?

7. What part of the debate most changed your point of view?

a. What was the issue?

b. What changed your position?

8. What was the most contentious or interesting part of the debate and why?

9. What was the most boring part of the debate and why?

10. What issue do you think needed more exploration?

a. What questions do you have about this issue and the candidates’ stance on them?

11. What was a memorable moment in the debate and why?

12. After watching the debate, what candidate most impressed you and why?

**PARAGRAPH RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

1. Who sponsored the debate and did that affect which candidates were included or excluded from participating in the debate? Please explain.

2. Do you think the debate questions, moderators and candidates were fair and made the best use of the time spent? What did you think of the debates structure? Would you change the structure and process in order to improve it? How?

3. What issue is most important to you and how would you rate each candidate’s position on that issue? As a result of hearing about the candidates’ position on this issue, for whom would you vote and why? ***\*pick specific positions/topics\****

4. Do candidates simply say what they believe, or might they employ a strategy with regards to issues?

5. Identify at least three ways the candidates use issues to appeal to voters. Have the candidates appealed to your beliefs? Which ones and how/why?

6. Do you think the debate focused more on personality and character than on substantive issues and topics? In what ways is this positive and negative? ***Give specifics***

7. Who do you think won the debate and explain why? Evaluate the effectiveness of the candidate's appeal on issues.

8. Did the debate make you feel hopeful or fearful about the future of our country? Please explain.