

Activity 1

Who Said It?

Instructions: The following quotes are from the Republican and Democratic National Party Platforms in 2016. First, predict which quote came from which party. In the **Party** column, place an **R** for Republican or a **D** for Democrat based on your prediction. Use the 2016 Republican Party Platform Excerpts, Activity 2, and the 2016 Democratic Party Platform Excerpts, Activity 3, to help determine which party said each quote below. Use the **Paragraph #** column to identify the paragraph in the platforms where you found the evidence.

Party	2016 Party Platform Quotes	Paragraph #
	1. [We] oppose tax policies that deliberately divide Americans or promote class warfare.	
	2. [We] will make it easier for workers, public and private, to exercise their right to organize and join unions.	
	3. We will also vigorously implement, enforce, and build on [the] landmark Dodd-Frank financial reform law, and we will stop dead in its tracks every...effort to weaken it.	
	4. Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with the repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act of 2010...	
	5. The federal government should not be in the business of originating student loans. In order to bring down college costs and give students access to a multitude of financing options, private sector participation in student financing should be restored.	
	6. [We] will provide direct federal funding for a range of local programs that will put young people to work and create new career opportunities.	
	7. We propose to level the international playing field by lowering the corporate tax rate to be on a par with, or below, the rates of other industrial nations.	
	8. ...today's extreme levels of income and wealth inequality are bad for our people, bad for our businesses, and bad for our economy.	
	9. ...the new law extended government control over the economy by creating new unaccountable bureaucracies. Predictably, central planning of our financial sector has not created jobs, it has killed them.	
	10. [We] believe that no financial institution is too big to fail.	
	11. At a time of massive income and wealth inequality, we believe the wealthiest Americans and largest corporations must pay their fair share of taxes.	
	12. We must scale back the federal role in the housing market, promote responsibility on the part of borrowers and lenders, and avoid future taxpayer bailouts.	
	13. Any future trade agreements must make sure our trading partners cannot undercut American workers by taking shortcuts on labor policy or the environment.	
	14. We will offer tax relief to hard working, middle-class families for the cost squeeze they have faced for years from rising health care, childcare, education, and other expenses.	
	15. ...the federal government must play a role in eliminating systemic barriers to wealth accumulation for different racial groups and improving opportunities for people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds to build wealth.	
	16. From start-ups foregone to home loans not made, Dodd-Frank's excessive regulation and burdensome requirements have helped contribute to the slow economy we all endure today...	
	17. Federal employees receive extraordinary pension benefits and vacation time wildly out of line with those of the private sector. We urge Congress to bring federal compensation and benefits in line with the standards of most American employees.	

	18. [We] will make sure the United States finally enacts national paid family and medical leave by passing a family and medical leave act...	
	19. We propose to remove from the Highway Trust Fund programs that should not be the business of the federal government.	
	20. We will fight every effort to cut, privatize, or weaken Social Security, including attempts to raise the retirement age...or reducing earned benefits.	
	21. With most of the states increasing their own funding for transportation, we oppose further increase in the federal gas tax.	
	22. We will defend the right of workers to collect their defined benefit pensions and make sure workers get priority and protection when pension plans are in distress.	
	23. [We] will advance legislation that brings transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve, the Federal Open Market Committee, and the Federal Reserve's dealing with foreign banks.	
	24. The climate emergency and the need to expand the middle class demand that we make the most ambitious investment in American infrastructure since President Eisenhower created the interstate highway system.	
	25. We will fight for Congress to adopt, and for the states to ratify, a Balanced Budget Amendment which imposes a cap limiting spending to the appropriate historical average percentage of our nation's gross domestic product...	
	26. We cannot allow China to continue its currency manipulation, exclusion of U.S. products from government purchases, and subsidization of Chinese companies to thwart American imports.	
	27. We must overturn the regulatory nightmare, created by the Dodd-Frank law, for the community banks and savings and loans that provide nearly half of all small-business loans and over three-quarters of all agricultural loans.	
	28. We must help American workers and businesses compete for jobs and investments in global clean energy, high-tech products, internet technology products...	
	29. We must impose firm caps on future debt, accelerate the repayment of the trillions we now owe in order to reaffirm our principles of responsible and limited government, and remove the burdens we are placing on future generations.	
	30. We should raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour over time and index it...	
	31. ...we will support efforts to limit the use of forced arbitration clauses in employment and service contracts, which unfairly strip consumers, workers, students, retirees, and investors of their right to their day in court.	
	32. We will preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing by expanding incentives to ease local barriers to building new affordable rental housing...	
	33. Our goal must be to create a financial system and an economy that works for all Americans, not just a handful of billionaires. We support a financial transactions tax on Wall Street to curb excessive speculation and high-frequency trading...	
	34. Wherever tax rates penalize thrift or discourage investment, they must be lowered. Wherever current provisions of the code are disincentives for economic growth, they must be changed.	
	35. We will protect and defend the Federal Reserve's independence to carry out the dual mandate assigned to it by Congress...	
	36. ...we accept the responsibility to preserve and modernize a system of retirement security forged in an old industrial era beyond the memory of most Americans.	

Activity 1.1 Answer Key

Who Said It?

Instructions: The following quotes are from the Republican and Democratic National Party Platforms in 2016. First, predict which quote came from which party. In the **Party** column, place an **R** for Republican or a **D** for Democrat based on your prediction. Use the 2016 Republican Party Platform Excerpts, Activity 1.2, and the 2016 Democratic Party Platform Excerpts, Activity 1.3, to help determine which party said each quote below. Use the **Paragraph #** column to identify the paragraph in the platforms where you found the evidence.

Party	2016 Party Platform Quotes	Paragraph #
R	1. [We] oppose tax policies that deliberately divide Americans or promote class warfare.	6
D	2. [We] will make it easier for workers, public and private, to exercise their right to organize and join unions.	3
D	3. We will also vigorously implement, enforce, and build on [the] landmark Dodd-Frank financial reform law, and we will stop dead in its tracks every...effort to weaken it.	19
R	4. Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with the repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act of 2010...	38
R	5. The federal government should not be in the business of originating student loans. In order to bring down college costs and give students access to a multitude of financing options, private sector participation in student financing should be restored.	36
D	6. [We] will provide direct federal funding for a range of local programs that will put young people to work and create new career opportunities.	17
R	7. We propose to level the international playing field by lowering the corporate tax rate to be on a par with, or below, the rates of other industrial nations.	8
D	8. ...today's extreme levels of income and wealth inequality are bad for our people, bad for our businesses, and bad for our economy.	18
R	9. ...the new law extended government control over the economy by creating new unaccountable bureaucracies. Predictably, central planning of our financial sector has not created jobs, it has killed them.	12
R	10. [We] believe that no financial institution is too big to fail.	14
D	11. At a time of massive income and wealth inequality, we believe the wealthiest Americans and largest corporations must pay their fair share of taxes.	23
R	12. We must scale back the federal role in the housing market, promote responsibility on the part of borrowers and lenders, and avoid future taxpayer bailouts.	15
D	13. Any future trade agreements must make sure our trading partners cannot undercut American workers by taking shortcuts on labor policy or the environment.	28
D	14. We will offer tax relief to hard working, middle-class families for the cost squeeze they have faced for years from rising health care, childcare, education, and other expenses.	26
D	15. ...the federal government must play a role in eliminating systemic barriers to wealth accumulation for different racial groups and improving opportunities for people from all racial and ethnic backgrounds to build wealth.	34
R	16. From start-ups foregone to home loans not made, Dodd-Frank's excessive regulation and burdensome requirements have helped contribute to the slow economy we all endure today...	13
R	17. Federal employees receive extraordinary pension benefits and vacation time wildly out of line with those of the private sector. We urge Congress to bring federal compensation and benefits in line with the standards of most American employees.	27-28

D	18. [We] will make sure the United States finally enacts national paid family and medical leave by passing a family and medical leave act...	5
R	19. We propose to remove from the Highway Trust Fund programs that should not be the business of the federal government.	18
D	20. We will fight every effort to cut, privatize, or weaken Social Security, including attempts to raise the retirement age...or reducing earned benefits.	8
R	21. With most of the states increasing their own funding for transportation, we oppose further increase in the federal gas tax.	20
D	22. We will defend the right of workers to collect their defined benefit pensions and make sure workers get priority and protection when pension plans are in distress.	9
R	23. [We] will advance legislation that brings transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve, the Federal Open Market Committee, and the Federal Reserve's dealing with foreign banks.	25
D	24. The climate emergency and the need to expand the middle class demand that we make the most ambitious investment in American infrastructure since President Eisenhower created the interstate highway system.	11
R	25. We will fight for Congress to adopt, and for the states to ratify, a Balanced Budget Amendment which imposes a cap limiting spending to the appropriate historical average percentage of our nation's gross domestic product...	32
R	26. We cannot allow China to continue its currency manipulation, exclusion of U.S. products from government purchases, and subsidization of Chinese companies to thwart American imports.	9
R	27. We must overturn the regulatory nightmare, created by the Dodd-Frank law, for the community banks and savings and loans that provide nearly half of all small-business loans and over three-quarters of all agricultural loans.	23
D	28. We must help American workers and businesses compete for jobs and investments in global clean energy, high-tech products, internet technology products...	12
R	29. We must impose firm caps on future debt, accelerate the repayment of the trillions we now owe in order to reaffirm our principles of responsible and limited government, and remove the burdens we are placing on future generations.	29
D	30. We should raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour over time and index it...	2
D	31. ...we will support efforts to limit the use of forced arbitration clauses in employment and service contracts, which unfairly strip consumers, workers, students, retirees, and investors of their right to their day in court.	4
D	32. We will preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing by expanding incentives to ease local barriers to building new affordable rental housing...	7
D	33. Our goal must be to create a financial system and an economy that works for all Americans, not just a handful of billionaires. We support a financial transactions tax on Wall Street to curb excessive speculation and high-frequency trading...	20
R	34. Wherever tax rates penalize thrift or discourage investment, they must be lowered. Wherever current provisions of the code are disincentives for economic growth, they must be changed.	4
D	35. We will protect and defend the Federal Reserve's independence to carry out the dual mandate assigned to it by Congress...	21
R	36. ...we accept the responsibility to preserve and modernize a system of retirement security forged in an old industrial era beyond the memory of most Americans.	34