How Does the Primary Process Work?

Name ______________________ Date ________

Read the following resource, then do the activities below:

How Does the Primary Process Work?
(http://www.vote-smart.org/election_president_how_primary_works.php)

Color the circle next to the words that best complete each of the following statements.

1. Caucuses and primaries are the methods used by states' political parties to
   O a. choose delegates to the national conventions.
   O b. vote for the president in November.
   O c. register citizens to vote.
   O d. all of the above.

2. Democratic and Republican caucuses
   O a. have been used to select candidates for a long time.
   O b. have become less common since the early 1900's.
   O c. are usually open to any voter in the party.
   O d. all of the above.

3. An open primary differs from a closed primary in that
   O a. open primaries are open to voters of only one political party.
   O b. open primaries are open to all registered voters.
   O c. open primaries allow voters to vote as many times as they want.
   O d. none of the above.

4. The Democratic Party uses the proportional method of awarding delegates. For example, if a state is allowed to send 10 delegates to the Democratic national convention, and if half the people of a state cast their primary votes for Candidate A and half voted for Candidate B, then
   O a. each candidate would receive 2 delegates.
   O b. each candidate would receive 5 delegates.
   O c. each candidate would receive 10 delegates.
   O d. none of the above.

Read each statement below. Color the circle next to the T if the statement is true. Color the circle next to the F if the statement is false.

5. Caucuses and primaries are one step in the process of determining which candidate will represent each party in November's presidential election. O T O F

6. In state primaries, voters gather for a meeting to choose their party's candidate. O T O F

7. In states that use closed primaries, a member of the Democratic Party is not allowed to vote in the Republican primary. O T O F

8. In some states, the Republican Party uses a winner-take-all approach to awarding delegates. O T O F

9. In states that use open primaries, a voter is able to vote in both the Republican and Democratic primaries. O T O F

10. Some states use a combination of primaries and caucuses. O T O F

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