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| Class Notes / PowerPoint Presentation / Textbook NotesMr. Kay’sAmerican Government ClassName:Class:Period:Date: Chapter 5 Section 1: |
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| *Questions/Main Ideas:* |  |
| *Objectives* | 1. Define a *political party*.
2. Describe the major functions of political parties.
3. Identify the reasons why the United States has a two-party system.
4. Understand multiparty and one-party systems and how they affect the functioning of a political system.
 |
| Key Terms |  |
| **political party**:  | * a group of persons who seek to control government by winning elections and holding public office
 |
| **political spectrum**:  | * the range of political views, from the so-called left to the right
 |
| **partisanship**:  | * strong support for a specific political party and its policies
 |
| **single-member districts**:  | * a voting district in which only one candidate is elected to each office on the ballot
 |
| **plurality**:  | * the largest number of votes cast for an elected office; this number does not have to be a majority of *all* votes cast
 |
| ***bipartisan****:*  | * an approach to policy making in which the two major parties find common ground on an issue
 |
| ***consensus****:*  | * general agreement among different groups on an issue
 |
| ***coalition****:*  | * a temporary alliance of several groups who join to form a working majority in a multiparty system
 |
| *Introduction* | * What are political parties, and how do they function in our two-party system?
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| What is a Party? | * Checkpoint: What are the three elements that make up a political party?
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| What Parties Do? |  |
| Roles of Parties |  |
| Parties as “Watchdogs” | * Checkpoint: How do parties perform the watchdog function?
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| The Two-Party System |  |
| Tradition |  |
| Tradition, cont. |  |
| Building Consensus |  |
| Political Spectrum |

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| **Radical** |  |
| **Liberal** |  |
| **Moderate** |  |
| **Conservative** | .  |
| **Reactionary** |  |

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| Multiparty Systems |  |
| Multiparty Systems, cont. |  |
| ***Review******\*\*\*Summary, Reflection, Analysis*** | – Does the two-party system help or harm democracy? |