

COLORADO KIDS: WORD BANK

November 4, 2008

“Today is election day!”

prisoner of war – a member of the military who is captured by the enemy and kept in their jail

candidate – someone trying to get elected

criticize – to make judgments or point out mistakes

expound – explain using details

poll – a survey in which many people are asked the same question(s)

battleground state – a state in which voters aren’t showing a strong indication of who they will vote for

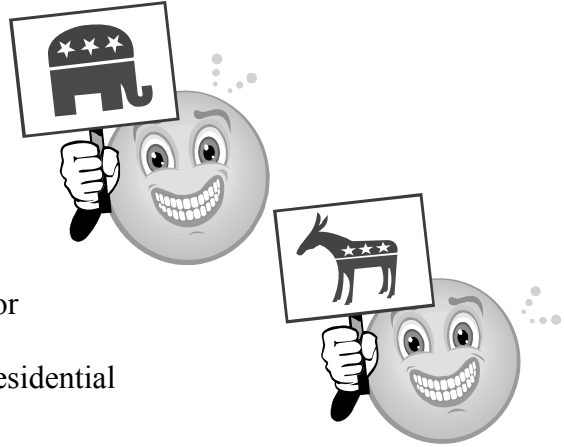
campaign – a planned effort to get votes

running mate – the person who is chosen as the presidential nominee’s vice president

economy – the money system of a country or state

illegal immigration – entering a foreign country to live there without going through the process required by law to become a citizen

ballots – pieces of paper with votes on them



“‘HSM3’ flashes to top of charts”

musical – a movie or play in which the characters sing many different songs

box office – movie ticket sales

senior – person in their last year of high school or college

phenomenon – extraordinary person or event

producer – creator or maker of a film or show

telecast – a TV show

platinum – CDs that have sold more than 1 million copies

soundtrack – recording of just the music from a movie

elaborate – very fancy with many details



“Wild Planet explodes with fun”

periscope – a device that uses mirrors to allow the viewer to see objects not in a direct line of sight

“Take a peek at 2009 NBA”

professional – somebody who gets paid for a job

defensive – the players who try to stop the other team from scoring

lackluster – dull, lacking excitement

“Each vote matters”

International Space Station (ISS) – also called the space station. This huge laboratory orbits 240 miles above Earth. It is being built and used by many countries for experiments in zero gravity and as a stepping stone for farther space travel

absentee – someone who is not present. Traditionally, absentee ballots were used for people who will be traveling or in the hospital on election day.

incumbent – already serving in office

Word game below ▼

FILL IN THE BLANK

Name _____ **Grade** _____

Fill in the blanks using the correct Word Bank word.

Running mates incumbent absentee elaborate campaign
lackluster professional battleground criticized expounded
phenomenon International Space Station campaign

1. It's finally here! For almost two years, candidates have argued, debated, and _____ each other. They've _____, reasoned, and begged voters to send them to the White House.

2. How did this _____ begin? Musicals lost popularity in the past few decades, but producer Bill Borden remembered how he loved musicals as a teenager.

3. The month of October is quite possibly one of the busiest months in all of _____ sports.

4. Democrat Senator Barack Obama has led Republican Senator John McCain in most polls. Six days before the election, Obama was leading by more than eight points in Colorado, a key _____ state.

5. Commander Mike Fincke and Flight Engineer Greg Chamitoff, floating 220 miles above Earth on the _____, voted by _____ electronic ballot, thanks to a bill passed in 1997 allowing astronauts to vote while in space.

6. The producers and writers wanted to give "HM3" the same feelings as the first two, but with more _____ sets and costumes.

7. Consider a 2004 election for the mayor's office in Guntersville, Alabama. When ballots were cast, _____ James Townson appeared to have won by one or two votes.

8. _____ John McCain and Sarah Palin, along with Barack Obama and Joe Biden, have made more than 30 appearances in Colorado throughout this long and tough _____.

9. "I'm pretty sure you guys will see a different defensive team this year from the Denver Nuggets," said Anthony about the team's _____ defense over the years.

10. What are the top issues during the presidential _____? In a phone survey of 700 people, 58 percent of Americans choosing the economy as the issue most important to them.