Teacher Resource

US Midterm Elections

EPISODE 63
11th November 2026

KEY LEARNING
Students will learn about the US midterm elections, and how Australia's political system differs.

CURRICULUM
Civics and Citizenship – Year 9
Civics and Citizenship – Year 10
Geography – Year 9

Examples:
Civics and Citizenship - Year 9 (v9.0)
Civics and Citizenship - Year 10 (v9.0)

Geography - Year 9 (v9.0)

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN High story as a class and record the main points of discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Explain what the US Midterm elections are.
2. How often does the US elect a president?
3. What is the US congress? Name it's two houses.
4. What are the two main political parties in the US? Which one does the President belong to?
5. Name at least two states mentioned in the video where results were unexpected.
6. Why were the midterm results surprising to some?
7. Why, in Jayden's opinion, did the Democrats do so well?
8. Jaden mentioned a lot of money is spent on campaigning in the US. Do you think there should be a limit on campaign spending? Why or why not?
9. Describe some ways in which Australia's political system is different to that of the USA?

Activities

- **Midterms Explained:** In small groups, students create a one-minute explainer or labelled diagram of how US elections work. Share it with the class.
- **Be The Reporter:** Students write three open questions for a local leader, such as a school captain, councillor or principal, then swap and rate each other's questions: Is it open? Is it fair? Does it need evidence to answer? Use Jaden's advice (start, follow your curiosity, ask hard questions) as a checklist.

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