








## “Debates and the Race for the White House” Script

		SHOT / TITLE	DESCRIPTION
1.	00:00	Animated Open	<b>Animated Open</b>
2.	00:07	Barack Obama and John McCain convention footage  	<b>VOICE OVER:</b>  THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PARTY CONVENTIONS ENDED WITH FIREWORKS AND FALLING BALLOONS. THE CONVENTIONS THIS YEAR WERE EXCITING, EVEN HISTORIC.
3.	00:17	Stacey Delikat in the newsroom  	<b>STACEY ON CAMERA:</b>  HI, I'M STACEY DELIKAT. THE CONVENTIONS ARE OVER AND NOW IT'S FULL SPEED AHEAD TO THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, ALONG THE WAY BOTH THE PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES WILL TAKE SOME TIME OUT FOR THE MOST HIGHLY ANTICIPATED EVENTS OF THE ELECTION SEASON, THE DEBATES.
4.	00:33  00:41	Still shots of Senator Barack Obama and Senator John McCain    Still shots of Senator Joe Biden and Governor Sarah Palin  	<b>VOICE OVER:</b>  DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE, SENATOR BARACK OBAMA, AND REPUBLICAN NOMINEE, SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN, WILL MEET THREE TIMES.  DEMOCRATIC VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE, SENATOR JOE BIDEN, AND REPUBLICAN NOMINEE, GOVERNOR SARAH PALIN, WILL MEET ONCE.



# the.Vote





5.	00:47	Video footage of 2004 debate between President George W. Bush and Senator John Kerry	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>THE DEBATES ARE THE ONLY OPPORTUNITIES VOTERS GET TO TAKE MEASURE OF THE CANDIDATES SIDE BY SIDE.</p>
6.	00:53  00:57	<p>Senior Correspondent for The Newshour, Jeffrey Brown, on camera</p> 	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>SENIOR CORRESPONDENT JEFFREY BROWN COVERS THE MEDIA FOR THE NEWSHOUR WITH JIM LEHRER.</p> <p><b>Jeffrey Brown</b> <b>Senior Correspondent, The Newshour with Jim Lehrer:</b></p> <p>I mean in a way it's very much like a high school debate. You look for how people present themselves, you look for how well prepared they are, you look for whether they can think on their feet.</p>
7.	01:10  01:15	<p>Video footage of Senator John Kerry and President George W. Bush during 2004 presidential debate</p> <p>Jeffrey Brown on camera</p>	<p><b>Jeffrey Brown:</b></p> <p>You look for all the kinds of things that you often don't see on the campaign trail where they're after all usually reciting their own stump speech.</p>
8.	01:19	Animation showing map of United States and location of the 2008 presidential debates	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES WILL BE SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI IN OXFORD; OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> AT BELMONT UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE; OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY IN HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK; AND THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS.</p>




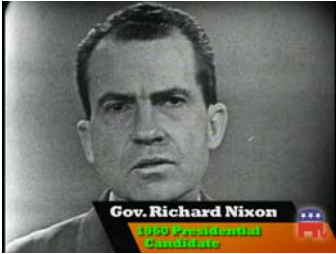



# the.Vote



11.	02:09   02:22  02:25	<p>Video of President, George W. Bush, being interviewed by Jim Lehrer</p>  <p>Video of debate with George W. Bush</p> <p>George W. Bush on camera</p>	<p><b>Jim Lehrer:</b></p> <p>Did you feel generally that they were useful exercises for democracy?</p> <p><b>George W. Bush President:</b></p> <p>Yeah, I think it's useful for people to watch and see how... you know, person they don't know stands up and answers... ..questions and deals with the thrusts and parries of a debate.</p> <p>I also think that you can actually learn what the person believes. They eat a lot of time in a campaign; I mean campaign's literally come to a halt during debate week.</p>
12.	02:34	<p>Video footage of 1960 Presidential debate</p> 	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES AREN'T REQUIRED TO DEBATE. JOHN F. KENNEDY AND RICHARD NIXON WERE THE FIRST TO DO SO IN 1960 BECAUSE BY THEN MOST AMERICANS OWNED TELEVISIONS.</p>



13.	02:44          02:50	<p>Video of President John F. Kennedy during 1960 debate</p>  <p>Video of Richard Nixon during 1960 debate</p> 	<p><b>John F. Kennedy</b> <b>Former President (1961-1963)</b></p> <p>This is a great country but I think it could be a greater country.</p> <p><b>VOICE OVER:</b> KENNEDY LOOKED RELAXED AND CONFIDENT.</p> <p><b>Richard Nixon</b> <b>1960 Presidential Candidate:</b></p> <p>Where then do we disagree?</p> <p><b>VOICE OVER:</b> NIXON WAS PERSPIRING AND THE POWDER HE PICKED TO COVER UP HIS FIVE O’CLOCK SHADOW MADE HIM LOOK PALE.</p> <p><b>Bob Dole</b> <b>Senator and 1996 Presidential Candidate:</b></p> <p>I was listening to it on the radio coming into Lincoln, Kansas...</p>
14.	03:01          03:09	<p>Bob Dole on camera</p>  <p>Video of President John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon during 1960 debate</p>	<p><b>Bob Dole:</b></p> <p>... and I thought Nixon was doing a great job, then I saw the TV clips the next morning and the guy, you know, he was sick. I mean he didn’t look well.</p> <p>Kennedy was young, you know, and articulate and sort of wiped him out.</p>



# the.Vote



15.	03:13  03:24  03:31	Video footage of 1964 election campaigning  Video footage of Richard Nixon election campaign  Video footage of 1976 Presidential debate 	<b>VOICE OVER:</b>  THERE WERE NO DEBATES IN 1964 BECAUSE POPULAR PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON WOULDN'T GIVE SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER THE OPPORTUNITY.  AND FOLLOWING HIS DEFEAT IN 1960, RICHARD NIXON REFUSED TO DEBATE IN BOTH 1968 AND 72', YET WON BOTH ELECTIONS.  BUT SINCE 1976 EVERY MAJOR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HAS DEBATED. IN FACT, THE DEBATES THAT YEAR SHOWED WHAT A PIVOTAL ROLE THEY CAN PLAY.
16.	03:43	Gerald Ford on camera 	<b>Gerald Ford</b> <b>Former President (1974-1977):</b>  I had to do something to overcome the thirty some points I was behind.






# the.Vote



17.	03:47  03:57 04:00 04:04 04:06	Video footage of Gerald Ford  Video of Richard Nixon Video of Gerald Ford Video of Jimmy Carter Video of 1976 Presidential debate	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>TWO MONTHS BEFORE THE 76' ELECTION, INCUMBENT PRESIDENT GERALD FORD TRAILED BADLY IN OPINION POLLS. HE HAD INHERITED A WHITE HOUSE IN TURMOIL FROM A DISGRACED RICHARD NIXON FOLLOWING THE WATERGATE SCANDAL. DESPERATE TO MAKE UP GROUND IN THE POLLS, FORD AGREED TO DEBATE HIS CHALLENGER GEORGIA GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER BUT HE THEN MADE ONE OF THE GREAT BLUNDERS IN PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE HISTORY.</p> <p><b>Gerald Ford:</b></p> <p>There is no Soviet domination of Eastern Europe and there never will be under a Ford administration.</p>
18.	04:19	Gerald Ford on camera in interview with Jim Lehrer	<p><b>Jim Lehrer:</b></p> <p>Why did you say that?</p> <p><b>Gerald Ford:</b></p> <p>There's no question, I did not adequately explain what I was thinking. I simply left out the fact that at that time in 1976 the Russians had about 10 to 15 divisions in Poland.</p>
19.	04:39	Video of 1976 Presidential debate	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>FORD WENT ON TO LOSE THE ELECTION.</p>



20.	04:43	<p>Jimmy Carter on camera in interview with Jim Lehrer</p>  <p>Pres. Jimmy Carter 1977 - 1981</p>	<p><b>Jimmy Carter</b> <b>Former President (1977 - 1981):</b></p> <p>This was a very serious mistake that he made and I don't know if the election turned on it...</p> <p><b>Jim Lehrer:</b></p> <p>I was going to ask you that, do you think it did?</p> <p><b>Jimmy Carter:</b></p> <p>I don't know if it did or not because there are so many factors that come into a campaign but certainly cost him some votes and, as you know, the election was quite close.</p>
21.	04:57	<p>Video footage from the 1984 presidential debate</p>  <p>1984</p>  <p>Pres. Ronald Reagan 1981 - 1989</p>	<p><b>VOICE OVER:</b></p> <p>DURING THE SECOND OF THE TWO 1984 DEBATES, RONALD REAGAN RELIED ON HUMOR TO TURN THE TABLES ON CHALLENGER WALTER MONDALE AND DEMOCRATIC CRITICS WHO QUESTIONED WHETHER REAGAN WAS TOO OLD TO CONTINUE AS PRESIDENT.</p> <p><b>Henry Trehitt</b> <b>Baltimore Sun:</b></p> <p>You already are the oldest president in history and some of your staff say you were tired after your most recent encounter with Mr. Mondale.</p> <p><b>Ronald Reagan</b> <b>Former President (1981-1989):</b></p> <p>I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent's youth and inexperience.</p>







