



## Listening comprehension key:

“Thinking Allowed: Political polarization” on BBC Radio 4: ~ 14Min; ab 14:08.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07wtd74>

I. True or false? (1 credit each)	true	false
1. In the current political debate in the US, partisanship does not matter.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. The attitudes of both major parties have never overlapped.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Both sides said in a survey they preferred illegal immigrants to people from the opposite party.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### II. Complete this sentence. (1 credit)

**Marc J. Hetherington** thinks that the rising distrust **has the effect that people do no longer want to compromise.**

### III. Tick the one correct answer. (1 credit)

<b>Robert Ford</b> explains that in the UK	a	<input type="checkbox"/>	this phenomenon of distrust is exactly the same as in the US.
	b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Labour supporters have less negative stereotypes about Conservatives than the other way round.
	c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In the UK, the people most distrustful of the government seem to choose other political parties rather than focusing on the two major ones.

IV. True or false? (1 credit each)	true	false
1. In the 1950s and 1960s, American politicians were able to cooperate across party lines.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Today, Republicans are willing to give up some of their political goals in the process of law-making.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. In the UK, the governing party needs support from people of the other party to get their work done.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

V. Complete the sentences. (1 credit each)

1. Unlike the Democrats, Republicans do not seem to mind political gridlock in Congress <b>because they are not as interested in creating new laws and getting work done as the opposite side.</b>
2. According to <b>Prof. Hetherington</b> , radical politicians like Bernie Sanders or Donald Trump are able to garner so much support <b>because people want some sort of purity to fight the other side's ideas. They see the other side as the devil and want their own devil.</b>

3. True or false? (1 credit each)	true	false
1. <b>Prof. Hetherington</b> thinks that government can only work with compromises.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. In the UK, those people who voted to remain in the EU tended to come from the lower trust end of the political spectrum.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. According to a survey from 2010, 49% of Democrats would be dissatisfied if their children married someone from the Republican party.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. In the UK, Conservative parents would rather see their children marrying a criminal than a UKIP supporter.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Proper names:

1. *Marc J. Hetherington*, Professor of Political Science at Vanderbilt University
2. *Robert Ford*, Professor of Political Science at the University of Manchester