#

# Listening comprehension key:

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

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **True or false?** (1 credit each)
 | true  | false  |
| 1. In the current political debate in the US, partisanship does not matter.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |
| 1. The attitudes of both major parties have never overlapped.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |
| 1. Both sides said in a survey they preferred illegal immigrants to people from the opposite

party. | ☑ | 🞏 |

1. **Complete this sentence**. (1 credit)

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

1. **Tick the one correct answer.** (1 credit)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Robert Ford*** explains that in the UK | a | 🞏 | this phenomenon of distrust is exactly the same as in the US. |
| b | 🞏 | Labour supporters have less negative stereotypes about Conservatives than the other way round. |
| c | ☑ | In the UK, the people most distrustful of the government seem to choose other political parties rather than focusing on the two major ones. |

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| 1. **True or false?** (1 credit each)
 | true  | false  |
| 1. In the 1950s and 1960s, American politicians were able to cooperate across party lines.
 | ☑ | 🞏 |
| 1. Today, Republicans are willing to give up some of their political goals in the process of law-making.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |
| 1. In the Uk, the governing party needs support from people of the other party to get their work done.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |

1. **Complete the sentences**. (1 credit each)

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Unlike the Democrats, Republicans do not seem to mind political gridlock in Congress because they are not as interested in creating new laws and getting work done as the opposite side.
 |
| 1. According to ***Prof. Hetherington***, radical politicians like Bernie Sanders or Donald Trump are able to garner so much support 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.
 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **True or false?** (1 credit each)
 | true  | false  |
| 1. ***Prof. Hetherington*** thinks that government can only work with compromises.
 | ☑ | 🞏 |
| 1. In the UK, those people who voted to remain in the EU tended to come from the lower trust end of the political spectrum.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |
| 1. According to a survey from 2010, 49% of Democrats would be dissatisfied if their children married someone from the Republican party.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |
| 1. In the UK, Conservative parents would rather see their children marrying a criminal than a UKIP supporter.
 | 🞏 | ☑ |

**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

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