# '5 Friends' video

By *Public Service Announcement* 

### PART 1:

Give the names of some of the people in the video and say what they have in common. Leonardo DiCaprio, Halle Berry, Jennifer Aniston, Tobey Maguire, Eva Longoria Parker, Ellen DeGeneres, Forest Whitaker, Dustin Hoffman, Demi Moore, Sarah Silverman, Jonah Hill, Ashton Kutcher, Courteney Cox, Laura Linney, Natalie Portman, Jamie Foxx, Usher, Kyra Sedgwick, Benicio Del Toro, and will.i.am.. They're all celebrities. (Amy Adams, Kevin Connolly, Anthony Kiedis, Kate Bosworth, Giovanni Ribisi, Michelle Trachtenberg, Djimon Honsou, Adam Levine, Kevin Bacon, Kevin Connolly, Ethan Suplee appear in the other parts)

Do you think it's important and why? **They could have influence on some people.** 

Consider the kind of language used: who do you think they're addressing? **Young U.S. voters** because they're using colloquial language.

# Pick out:

- the questions or expressions given and say what they imply. You don't care. What's the point? Who cares? Who gives a shit? Out of the question. Why would you vote? It's a bad idea. I forbid you to vote. Stay where you are. There's no point. Nobody's listening to you so fuck it. => it's useless, nobody cares, gives a damn on it, feels concerned about it...
- some of the issues mentioned in the passage. *Children's education, reading, literacy, global warming and the fact our polar ice caps are melting, terrorism, the war on drugs, Darfur.*
- the 2 adjectives used at the end and say what they refer to. *Absurd, ridiculous.* They refer to the fact of voting.

**Sum up**: What are they saying? **Don't vote.** Do you think they're serious? **They must be ironical.** 

Who are they talking to? Young Americans who can vote. Why? Maybe because they don't feel really concerned about voting.

# **PART 2:**

Note down the first sentence. **Don't vote unless you care about health care.** Translate the link word and rephrase the sentence. **A moins que.** Vote only / You can vote if you care about health care.

What important issues do these people mention in part 2? Look at the following list and tick those you hear:

| social security     |                         | health care         | $\overline{\checkmark}$ | all the Amendments            | $\overline{\checkmark}$ |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| the war             | $\overline{\checkmark}$ | the industries      |                         | the economy                   | $\overline{\checkmark}$ |
| gun control         | $\checkmark$            | human rights        |                         | our country                   |                         |
| minimum waste       |                         | minimum wage        |                         | everything                    |                         |
| Iraq                |                         | gay rights          |                         | environment                   |                         |
| abortion rights     | $\checkmark$            | the third Amendment |                         | welfare                       |                         |
| men's rights        |                         | politics            |                         | housing                       |                         |
| the first Amendment | $\checkmark$            | freedom             |                         | your future                   |                         |
| rising gas prices   | $\checkmark$            | terrorism           |                         | the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Amendment |                         |
| the law             |                         | the world           |                         |                               |                         |
| civil rights        | $\overline{\checkmark}$ | women's rights      | $\overline{\checkmark}$ |                               |                         |
|                     |                         |                     |                         |                               |                         |

Pick out the expressions that contain modal auxiliaries. What do they express?

Maybe you should reconsider ... you should vote, you could vote if..., you oughta vote.

They express advice and obligation. The stars are trying to make the young change their mind little by little.

**Sum up:** Why did they choose these issues ? **The artists think they are worth voting for.** 

#### **PART 3:**

Pick out the verb which is used several times at the beginning of this part. *Register*. Why do they insist on it? **Because if they don't, they can't vote.** 

Pick out two expressions using this verb **and** modal auxiliaries. **You have to register to vote / you must register to vote.** 

Explain the difference between the two. Avec *have to* = constat; avec *must* = jugement personnel de nécessité. You have to feel <u>personally</u> concerned and obliged to do it.

Pick out the date mentioned. *October 4th.* What does it correspond to ? The deadline / the end of registering for some states.

What happens after this date? You won't be able to express yourself. 'that's it, your power is gone, you have no choice'

So what are the arguments given by these persons? It's very easy, it only takes a few seconds, you're probably online right now, aren't you?, you can register everywhere — even in the toilets while you're pooping\* — all you need is a mouse.

What are they doing at the end of the passage and why? They're waiting for you to vote.

Sum up: What is the message conveyed in this part? You need to register to vote, which is really easy and only takes a few minutes.

#### **PART 4:**

What do they want in this part? They want people who have registered to send this message to 5 friends.

Why? To spread the word and make a lot of young people vote (to create a network, which is familiar to the young).

What is the keyword given at the beginning of this part ? *Responsibility*. They want the young to feel responsible.

Sum up this part.