Campaigns 101: The Essay Assignment

We have discussed the different campaign approaches that have been used throughout the 1900’s and into the 2000’s. We even put Abe Lincoln up against Bill Clinton- who would’ve thought? You have learned that the social conditions and knowledge of people influence the type of approach that a candidate will use. But, this essay will ask you to really examine who would win.

The prompt: It is the year 2008. President George W. Bush is leaving office, and the campaigns are in full swing. For the Republicans- we have Abraham Lincoln. For the Democrats- Bill Clinton (the 22\textsuperscript{nd} amendment has been repealed). Who do you think will win this election, and why?

You will need to research both candidates, and apply that knowledge to modern-day problems. Think about how Lincoln would feel about the response to Hurricane Katrina. How would Clinton respond to the threat of terrorism? Also think about the characteristics of each- how would Lincoln do on television? What experience does each former president have that would be better for the American people in 2008?

Your essay must be a typical 5-paragraph essay, with an introduction, three main reasons why your chosen candidate will win (each reason having one paragraph dedicated to it), and a conclusion. You must also include a works-cited page. Research must include at least one primary source, one secondary source, and no more than three websites. Encyclopedias may be used, but not as the only source of information.

Good luck, and let me know if you have any questions!