**My Political Beliefs**

1. Complete the chart below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Who or what comes  to mind when you hear this word? |  |  |  |
| How does the dictionary define it? Use the most relevant definition. |  |  |  |
| Draw a picture or symbol to represent the term. |  |  |  |

1. Most people are a mix of moderate and liberal/conservative. Some people have some liberal beliefs and some conservative ones. Think of an example:
2. Political beliefs are often described as being on a continuum/spectrum from left to right.   
   But in reality, a matrix is more accurate. Fill in the diagram as we discuss it together,   
   then put a ★ where you belong on the matrix. Explain below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. Fill out this chart based on your own beliefs.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Statement | Rate 0-5  0 = Strongly Disagree  5 = Strongly Agree | Why? |
| I support the right of homosexual couples to be legally married |  |  |
| I support making abortion illegal |  |  |
| I support laws protecting the environment even if it requires stricter regulation of businesses |  |  |
| I support increased spending on military defense |  |  |
| I support state use of the death penalty |  |  |
| I support taxation for government supported social services |  |  |
| I support increased oil exploration in wilderness areas |  |  |
| I support increasing taxes to preserve Social Security |  |  |
| I support sponsored prayer in public schools |  |  |
| I support government vouchers to help students afford private school tuition |  |  |
| I support government intervention in health care insurance |  |  |
| I support increasing the minimum wage |  |  |
| I support lowering taxes for businesses to help them expand and hire workers |  |  |
| I support raising taxes on the wealthy to help solve problems of inequality |  |  |

Are you more liberal, conservative, or moderate? After we learn about the differences between the main political parties in the U.S., you will write a 1-page paper to answer the following prompt: “If you were to register to vote today, would you choose the Democratic Party, Republican Party, or Neither? Explain.”