

## Glencoe Curriculum Portfolio Activities—Unit 4



### Social Studies 2

**Write a business letter and create and format a table.**

The presidential election of 2000 when George W. Bush was elected president was one of the closest elections in recent history. When the final votes were tallied, Al Gore, the Democratic candidate, had received more of the popular vote than George W. Bush, the Republican candidate. George Bush, however, received 271 electoral votes, five more than Al Gore. George W. Bush became the 43<sup>rd</sup> president of the United States.

Read about this election and the Electoral College process in *Glencoe: The American Journey*. You may also wish to conduct outside research using the Internet or news magazines and newspapers.

Write a letter to one of the United States senators from your state. In your letter explain why you think the Electoral College system should be abolished or retained. Be sure to format your letter correctly and use a return address. You will be including an enclosure with your letter, and your letter should show that there is an enclosure.

The enclosure will be a table that you will create showing the final popular and electoral votes in the 2000 presidential election. Be sure to include a title and proper headings on your table. Shade the rows to distinguish between the votes cast for Democratic candidate Al Gore and Republican candidate George W. Bush. Also, cite a source for the data shown in your table.

Key your paragraphs and your table into a word processor. Spell-check, edit, and proofread your letter and the table.

Resources:

The Internet

*Glencoe: The American Journey*, pp. 941-942

Topics: The 2000 presidential election; the Electoral College