

## LESSON PLAN 2: CRITICAL THINKING, CITING TEXT EVIDENCE

**NATIONAL PAGES 14-17**

**Lexile level: 1070L**

**Lower Lexile level (available online): 880L**

# Day on the Campaign Trail



Even in the Internet age, you can't run for president without meeting voters face to face. *Upfront* spent a day with Republican candidate Carly Fiorina in New Hampshire to find out what it takes.

### Additional Resources [upfrontmagazine.com](http://upfrontmagazine.com)

#### Print or project:

- Article Quiz (also on p. 9 of this Teacher's Guide)
- Find the Evidence (also on p. 12 of this Teacher's Guide)
- Analyze the Graph (also on p. 11 of this Teacher's Guide)
- Analyze the Photo (also on p. 14 of this Teacher's Guide)

**Download:** Voters' attitudes about electing a woman

## Analyze the Article

**1 Read:** Students should read the article, marking the text to note key ideas or questions.

**2 Discuss:** Ask students to answer the following critical-thinking questions, citing evidence from the text:

- **Why is New Hampshire considered a critical state for presidential candidates in general and for Carly Fiorina in particular?** (*New Hampshire hosts the nation's first primary election—held eight days after the Iowa caucuses. A solid performance in New Hampshire can help a candidate stay in the running. Fiorina has had relatively low poll numbers and could use such a boost.*)
- **Why do you think traditional town hall meetings still have a place in presidential campaigning? Do you think they always will? Explain.** (*Town hall meetings*

*give voters, especially undecided ones, a chance to see candidates in person and ask questions on issues that are important to them. Students will have varying views on whether this type of campaigning will continue to play a role in American politics.*)

- **What does professor Dean Spiliotes mean when he says that "retail politics" is "done for national consumption"?** (*He means that local campaign events, like candidates chatting with voters over coffee, often end up being covered by national news media or on social media. This means national exposure for candidates.*)

### 3 Core Skill Practice

Print or project the activity **Find the Evidence** (on p. 12 of this Teacher's Guide). Have students cite evidence from the article to answer the questions.

## Extend & Assess

**4 Writing Prompt**  
Based on what you've read, write an essay explaining the idea of "retail politics." Do you think this is still a relevant idea in the Internet age?

**5 Classroom Debate**  
Support your view: Does the current presidential nomination system put too much importance on New Hampshire and Iowa?

**6 Download**  
Download and share the data on voters' attitudes about electing a woman as president. Have students evaluate how their own views compare.