Watch the governor debate

BEFORE YOU WATCH | Read the clues. Circle one answer for each question.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A **debate** is a talk where candidates share their ideas. A **candidate** wants to be elected. A **political party** is a group with ideas about government.



Maura Healey

Democratic Party

Our governor now



Mike Minogue

Republican Party

Running for governor

ELECTION DAY: Tuesday, November 3, 2026

1. Which party is Maura Healey from?

- ○ A. Democratic
- ○ B. Republican
- ○ C. Libertarian
- ○ D. Green-Rainbow

2. Which party is Mike Minogue from?

- ○ A. Democratic
- ○ B. Republican
- ○ C. Libertarian
- ○ D. Green-Rainbow

3. What does a governor lead?

- ○ A. A town library
- ○ B. The U.S. military
- ○ C. A state's executive branch
- ○ D. A city council

4. Why do we watch a debate?

- ○ A. To count the audience
- ○ B. To choose a school mascot
- ○ C. To guess a speaker's age
- ○ D. To learn about plans

Executive branch: the part of government that carries out laws.

Listen for their ideas

DURING & AFTER | Short words, a drawing, or an adult scribe are welcome.

Name: _____ Date: _____

For each candidate, circle one topic you hear. Write an idea from the debate. If the clip does not give an idea, write **not heard**.

Maura Healey

A topic that matters to this candidate:

schools • homes • energy

costs • safety • other

I heard this idea:

Mike Minogue

A topic that matters to this candidate:

schools • homes • energy

costs • safety • other

I heard this idea:

Government & me

Government helps pay for services and makes rules. Town, state, and U.S. leaders share this work. Check things that affect your life.

- ☐ School and meals
- ☐ Roads and buses
- ☐ Clean water
- ☐ Parks and libraries
- ☐ Storm safety
- ☐ Energy at home

One matters to me because...

THINK Pick one idea. **PAIR** Take turns telling why it matters.
SHARE Ask: How would your plan help our community?

Compare their ideas

HOUSING • SCHOOLS • ENERGY

Name: _____ Date: _____

These are the candidates' ideas. A plan may not happen.

	 **Maura Healey**	 **Andrea James**	 **Mike Minogue**
HOMES	Build more homes.	Limit how much rent can go up.	Make it easier to build homes.
SCHOOLS	Help preschool and tutoring.	Give schools fair funding.	Add more school choices.
ENERGY	Use more sun and water power.	Move to all clean energy.	Add gas pipes. Study nuclear power.

Point to an idea about homes. Tell what it means.

Selected positions, simplified from campaign sources E-G; checked October 19, 2026.

Governor research detectives

LOOK IT UP | Work with a partner. Ask an adult for reading help.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Use a book or the sources below. A **source** tells where a fact came from. Write a source letter beside each answer.

Our governor today

1. Who is the governor of Massachusetts now?

_____ Source: ___

2. In what year did this governor start the job?

_____ Source: ___

3. What is one job of the governor?

_____ Source: ___

From governor to president?

4. Has a Massachusetts governor become U.S. president?

☐ Yes ☐ No Source: ___

5. What was his name? _____

6. He was the _____ U.S. president. (Write the number.)

A Governor today

nga.org

B Governor's job

sec.state.ma.us

C History clue

guides.loc.gov

Teacher guide & answer key

PRINT STUDENT PAGES 1-4 | Keep pages 5-6 with the master copy.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A short, flexible lesson

Before: Read page 1 and preview the earlier viewpoints sheet on page 3. **During:** Pause after each candidate answers the same question; use page 2. **After:** Pair-share, then complete the research on page 4.

Use any Healey-Minogue debate recording. Record the clip date or title here: _____. Watch short sections, enable captions, and read names and choices aloud. Students may point, draw, dictate, or use a scribe.

Answers & look-fors

Page 1: 1 A (Democratic); 2 B (Republican); 3 C (state executive branch); 4 D (learn about plans). The election is Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Page 2: Accept an idea actually heard in the selected clip, or "not heard." Do not grade political agreement. All six personal-connection boxes are valid; students choose what fits their lives. Look for a clear connection, not private family information.

Page 4: 1 Maura Healey (A); 2 2023 (A); 3 proposes a budget, signs or rejects bills, or leads the executive branch (B); 4 Yes (C); 5 Calvin Coolidge; 6 30th. Coolidge was governor January 1919-January 1921 and president 1923-1929. Some sources list his governor service as 1919-1920, meaning his two annual terms.

Viewpoints page & careful discussion

Page 3 reproduces the earlier short "Compare their ideas" worksheet, including its code **3**. It also shows independent candidate Andrea James, who is on the ballot; this listening activity focuses on Healey and Minogue. The code is not a new page number. Campaign ideas are not guaranteed results, and the governor shares power with lawmakers and courts.

Facts checked October 26, 2026. Sources A-C are linked on page 4. Additional teacher sources below are clickable; the original worksheet sources and image credits follow on page 6.

Election date & parties

Coolidge: exact governor dates

Sources & image credits

FOR TEACHER REFERENCE

A. Government purpose and classroom standard
www.doe.mass.edu — open source • MA DESE, 3.T1.3, printed pp. 53-54.

B. Governor duties and term
www.sec.state.ma.us — open source • Secretary of the Commonwealth. Term: Elected Offices & Terms page.

C. Biography and term beginning in 2023
www.nga.org — open source • National Governors Association.

D. 2026 election candidates and election date
www.sec.state.ma.us — open source • Secretary of the Commonwealth; election: November 3, 2026.

E. Healey campaign: housing, education, energy
maurahealey.com — open source • Linked Housing, Public Education, and Energy Costs pages.

F. James campaign: platform and biography
www.ajforma.com — open source • Also ajforma.com/meet-andrea and homepage utility-cost position.

G. Minogue campaign: platform and biography
minogueforma.com — open source • Also minogueforma.com/meet-mike/.

Image credits

State seal: Massachusetts Design System, full-color seal.

Healey: Governor's Office official portrait, January 2023.

James: campaign biography photograph.

Minogue: campaign portrait reproduced by Fox News.

Photo crops are for layout only. Civic icons are original vector illustrations. Campaign proposals are summarized, not endorsed; the selected issues do not represent complete platforms. Governor and lieutenant governor are elected together on a ticket. Candidate list rechecked October 20, 2026; positions researched October 19, 2026.

Digital source labels are clickable. Keep these reference pages with the master packet.