

# Source Document

1787  
4/17/87

## Powers of the President

### The President as Chief Executive *Article (2) two*

- the President is the chief executive, or head of the executive branch

**ENFORCES**

*Role of Executive Branch:*

- the President executes the laws, which means he makes sure they are carried out

- one way this is done is through executive orders

- Executive Order - rules and regulations that government officials must follow (ex. Truman ending segregation in armed services)

*example*

- these executive orders are limited, His orders may not violate the Constitution or laws by Congress

### 1. The President as Commander in Chief

*TWO POWERS!  
out of four listed*

- the Constitution says that "the President shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States."

- So, when the nation is at war, the President makes the most important decisions

### 2. The President as Chief Diplomat

- He is our representative with other nations

- The President leads in making foreign policy
  - Foreign Policy - plans for guiding our nation's relationships with other countries.
  - Basically, foreign policy involves deciding how to support or oppose actions of other nations
- Foreign Policy is the President's "territory, but Congress may set limits

Congress  
check  
on Foreign  
Policy

- The President may make treaties (agreements with other countries), but the Senate may reject any treaty
- The President appoints ambassadors (reps. To foreign governments), but they must be approved by the Senate
- But, the President does NOT need approval to enter into executive agreements (agreements with other countries). These can range from trade goals to foreign aid

### 3. The President as Legislative Leader

- The Constitution says the President may recommend to Congress "such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient"

- Basically this means Congress is expected to consider the President's ideas, rather than pass laws alone
- Early each year the President addresses both houses in the State of the Union Address
  - In this address he speaks of items ranging from foreign policy to taxes and day care to pollution
  - His goal is to set up domestic policy (plans for dealing with national problems)
- How does the President turn domestic and foreign policy into law?
  - Getting members of Congress to write bills
  - Speeches to interest groups
  - Threat of a veto - it gets Congress to change a bill (only 4% of 2,500 vetoes have been overridden)
  - Preparing a budget
  - Call special sessions of Congress

Check on  
Legislative  
Branch's  
Veto

#### 4. The President's Judicial Powers

Check on Judicial  
Branch

- The president chooses Supreme Court Justices and other federal judges, but they must be approved by the Senate
- He may put off or reduce the punishment of someone convicted of crime in federal courts
- He may grant pardons

# Article II

## So you want to be President?

“A president either is constantly on top of events or, if he hesitates events will soon be on top of him. I never felt that I could let up for a single moment.”

- Harry S. Truman

### Constitutional Qualifications to be President:

1. Age: 35 years old – Almost all have been over the age of 50.

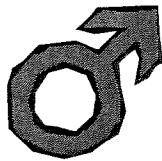


2. Naturalized Born Citizen – Born on U.S. soil or born to American citizens



3. 14-year resident of the U.S.

### Unwritten Qualifications – Similarities among our Presidents that have been elected

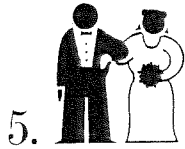


1. Sex – All have been Male
2. Race – All have been White

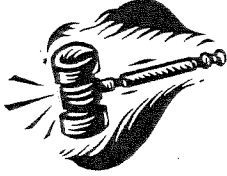


3. Religion – All have been Protestant except for 1

4. Most have been Wealthy



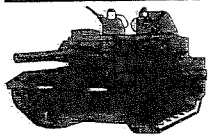
5. Married – All have been married except for 1



6. Past Work Experiences – Most have been involved in government before. A lot of them have been lawyers.



7. Education – Most have been College Educated



8. Experience in the military – Only 12 presidents have not had some sort of military experience



9. Belong to a major party – Only George Washington did not belong to a party.

## Unwritten Qualifications in the Modern Era

1. Descent Looking – Not necessarily attractive but appearances do help presidential candidates.



2. Well Spoken – everyone in the country hears the words of the president. The inability to communicate effectively through speeches and appearances on television and radio could cost you the presidency.

What has made the qualifications for president change in the Modern Era?

*Makes Pres. more powerful*

1. Television



- 2.



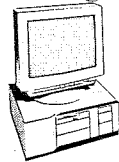
Radio

- 3.



Photographs

4. Internet



Question to think about – Are the individuals that we select to be president really the most qualified?



## Electing the President – The Electoral College

- Before you can be president you must meet the constitutional requirements – 35 years old, 14 year U.S. citizen, and naturalized born citizen.



*Elected for four (4) years  
Can serve two (2) terms*

### Party Selection of Presidential Candidates

Step 1: Candidates declare they are running for president for a particular party.

Step 2: Candidates then run in primary elections against other candidates within the same party.

Step 3: Presidential candidate for each party is selected based on their performance in primary elections. The party will select the candidate at their national convention. They will select the individual they feel will have the best chance of winning.

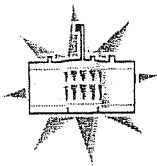
Step 4: After each party selects their candidate they then run against other party candidates in the November election. Usually the main candidates are from the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.



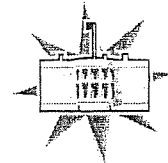
## Presidential Election



- The Framers of the Constitution used a system called the Electoral College to select the President.
- The Electoral College – People selected in each state who gather to formally cast their ballots for the President and Vice President of the United States. When people vote for the President they actually are voting for electors.



### How the Electoral College works:



Step One: Voters vote for a presidential candidate in their home state.

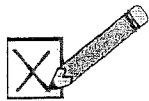
Step Two: The candidate who gets the most votes or wins the popular vote in the state receives all the electoral votes. There is a set of electoral voters for each party ready to vote based on the outcome of the popular vote.

Step Three: The electoral voters vote based on who got the most popular votes in a particular state. For



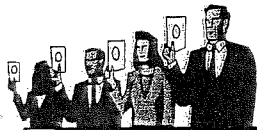
example, if Bush won the popular vote in Missouri then he would receive all the electoral votes.

Step Four: They add up all the electoral votes and determine the winner of the presidency.



How many electoral votes does each state receive?

- You add the number of Representatives a state receives and the number of senators. For example, Missouri has 11 electoral votes because we have 9 Representatives and 2 Senators.



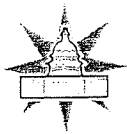
Total Number of Electoral Votes:

- 538 – 435 Representatives + 100 Senators + 3 from the District of Columbia.

How Many Electoral Votes do you need to win the Presidency?

- 270

What if a candidate does not receive a majority of the Electoral Votes?



- It is given to the House of Representatives where they will decide.



Do the electors have to vote based on the winner of the Popular Vote?

- No, but some states require by law that electors vote based on the popular vote. 7 electors in the 20<sup>th</sup> century did not vote how they were supposed to. None of the faithless electors have decided the outcome of the election

Who is not allowed to be an elector?

- Members of Congress and Federal employees.



*The Electoral College*  
Why did the Framers choose to use this system to select the President?

- They believed that the masses were not smart enough to elect the President
- Prevent Corruption of the Voting Process


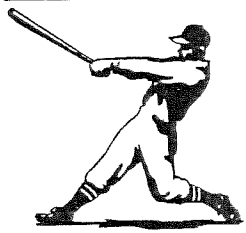




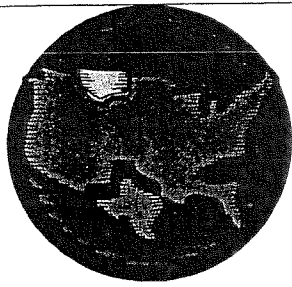
Major Criticism of the Electoral College

- May not show the will of the People. The winner of the Electoral College may not win the Popular Vote. Example – Election 2000 between Bush and Gore.

Septs  
or

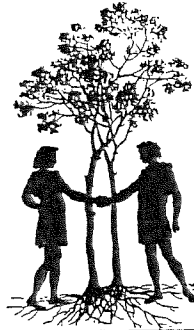
# The Seven Roles of the President

Role	Example of the Role
<p data-bbox="121 415 722 682">1. <b>Chief of State</b> – <u>Performs certain ceremonial functions as a personal symbol of the</u> <u>nation</u></p> 	<ul data-bbox="803 415 1518 1123" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Throws out the first pitch of the baseball season</u></li></ul>  <ul data-bbox="803 787 1518 1123" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lights national Christmas Tree</li><li>• Welcomes the NCAA Champions of Women's Tennis at the White House</li></ul>
<p data-bbox="121 1144 665 1470">2. <b>Chief Executive</b> – <u>Enforces laws, federal court decisions, and treaties signed by the United States</u></p> 	<ul data-bbox="803 1144 1518 1680" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appoints, with Senate approval, high ranking officers of the federal government</li></ul>  <ul data-bbox="803 1480 1518 1680" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Holding a Cabinet meeting to discuss government business</u></li></ul>



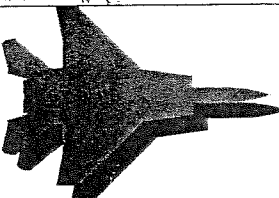
3. **Chief Diplomat** – Directs U.S. foreign policy and is the nations most important representative in dealing with foreign counties

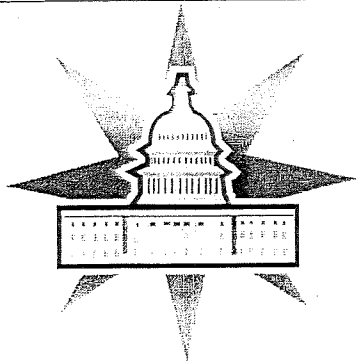
- Can negotiate and sign treaties with other nations with Senate approval
- Receives leaders from other countries




4. **Commander-in-Chief** – Leads the nations armed forces



-  Can commit troops for up to ninety days in response to a military threat
- Calling out troops to stop a riot



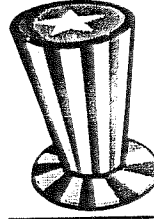
5. **Chief Legislator** – Informs Congress about the condition of the country and recommends legislative measure

- Urge Congress to create and pass laws
- Veto bills
-  Making a speech in Congress

**6. Chief of Party –**  
Heads political party



- Makes several thousand top-level government appointments, often to faithful party members



- May attend party fund raisers

**7. Chief Guardian of the Economy –**  
Expected to take action that will help the economy run smoothly



- Meeting with economic advisors to discuss ways to improve the economy



- Meeting with business leaders

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# ~~14~~ Cabinets of the Executive Branch

Name of Cabinet	Description	Department Head	Organization
Department of State (1789)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Conducts foreign Affairs</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of State</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>U.S. Foreign Services</u></li> <li>• <u>Passport Agency</u></li> </ul>
Department of the Treasury (1789)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Manages U.S. Money</u></li> <li>• <u>Formulates financial policies</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Treasury</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>IRS</u></li> <li>• <u>Secret Service</u></li> <li>• <u>United States Mint</u></li> </ul>
Department of Defense (1949)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Manages the Armed Forces</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Defense</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Joint Chiefs of Staff</u></li> <li>• <u>National Security Agency</u></li> </ul>
Department of Education (1979)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Administers National education programs</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Education</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Office of Elementary and Secondary Education</u></li> </ul>
Department of Justice (1870)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Gives legal advice to the President</u></li> </ul>	<u>Attorney General</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>FBI</u></li> <li>• <u>U.S. Marshals</u></li> <li>• <u>INS</u></li> </ul>
Department of Interior (1849)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Protects Natural Resources</u></li> <li>• <u>Supervise native American Affairs</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Interior</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>National Park Service</u></li> <li>• <u>Bureau of Land Management</u></li> <li>• <u>Bureau of Indian Affairs</u></li> </ul>

<b>Department of Agriculture (1889)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides assistance to <u>farmers and ranchers</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Agriculture</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Oil Conservation Services</u></li> <li>• <u>Food and Safety Inspection Services</u></li> </ul>
<b>Department of Commerce (1903)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Help Businesses</u></li> <li>• <u>Economic Development</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Commerce</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bureau of Economic Development</u></li> <li>• Census Bureau</li> <li>• Patents and Trademarks</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Labor (1913)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforces laws that affect <u>workers</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Labor</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration</u></li> </ul>
<b>Department of Health and Human Services (1979)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Promotes Public Health</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Health and Human Services – Surgeon General</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FDA</li> <li>• <u>Social Security</u></li> </ul>
<b>Department of Housing and Urban Development (1965)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works to improve places <u>people live</u></li> </ul>	<u>Secretary of Housing and Urban Development</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity</u></li> </ul>

<p><b>Department of Energy (1977)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Researches new ways of generating energy</u></li> </ul>	<p><u>Secretary of Energy</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Office of Nuclear Energy</u></li> <li>• <u>Office of Conservation and Renewable Energy</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Transportation (1967)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Regulates Transportation Industries</u></li> </ul>	<p><u>Secretary of Transportation</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Federal Highway Administration</u></li> <li>• <u>U.S. Coast Guard</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Veteran Affairs (1989)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Promotes the welfare of Veterans</u></li> </ul>	<p><u>Secretary of Veteran Affairs</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Veterans Health Administration</u></li> <li>• <u>Veterans Benefits Administration</u></li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Homeland Defense (2003)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Protect the United States from Terrorism</u></li> </ul>	<p><u>Secretary of Homeland Defense</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>FBI</u></li> </ul>



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Presidential Quiz Review 3rd

1. What are the three constitutional requirements to become president?
2. What are three unwritten qualifications to be president?
3. What has allowed the president to gain more power over the years?
4. Where are the powers of the president found in the constitution?
5. What is the role of the Executive Branch?
6. What are two constitutional powers that the President has? *The Constitution says:*
7. How can the president check the Legislative Branch?

#2

8. How can the president check the Judicial Branch?
9. How long is a term of office for the president? How many terms can he serve?
10. The President meets his cabinet, what role is he fulfilling?
11. The President makes a guest appearance on a kids show, what role is he fulfilling?
12. What are primary elections?
13. How do they decide how many electoral votes a state receives?
14. How many electoral votes are available?
15. How many electoral votes does it take to win the presidency?
16. What is the difference between the electoral vote and the popular vote?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ . Date: 11-8-07

Define:

1. Maximize: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Campaign: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Strategy: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Predict: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Brochure: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Professional: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Contend: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Event: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Mention: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Endorse: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Justification: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Election: \_\_\_\_\_
14. Method: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Demographic: \_\_\_\_\_
16. Pattern: \_\_\_\_\_
17. Creative: \_\_\_\_\_
18. Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_
19. Extreme: \_\_\_\_\_
20. Various: \_\_\_\_\_

Select two words above and write two sentences containing at least 5 words each.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_