

Chapter 12 - The Presidency

1. According to Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution, to become the president of the United States, a person must:
 - a. have attained the age of forty-five years.
 - b. be a Protestant by birth.
 - c. have been a resident of the United States for a minimum of fourteen years.
 - d. have been born to parents who are natural born citizens of the United States.
 - e. be a Roman Catholic.
2. Which of the following claims did the conspiracy theorists called "birthers" make about President Barack Obama (2009–2017)?
 - a. He was not born to parents who were natural-born citizens of the United States.
 - b. He was a Roman Catholic.
 - c. He was a resident within the United States for less than 14 years.
 - d. He was not born in the United States.
 - e. He had not attained the required presidential age.
3. Who among the following was one of the conspiracy theorists called "birthers" who claimed that President Barack Obama was not a natural-born U.S. citizen?
 - a. Mike Pence
 - b. Joe Biden
 - c. Valerie Jarrett
 - d. Donald Trump
 - e. Susan Rice
4. What is one perk associated with being president of the United States?
 - a. The president can start his or her own for-profit ventures.
 - b. The president need not pay for the tuition of his or her children.
 - c. The president is exempt from paying federal taxes.
 - d. The president need not pay for his or her personal expenses.
 - e. The president enjoys the use of the White House.
5. In the context of presidential age, which of the following statements is true?
 - a. The Constitution states that anyone who is twenty-five years of age or older can become president.
 - b. The oldest person elected president was John F. Kennedy.
 - c. The youngest person to hold the office of president was William McKinley, who was forty-two when he became president.
 - d. The youngest person elected president was Ronald Reagan, who assumed the presidency at the age of forty-three.
 - e. The average age at the presidential inauguration has been fifty-five.
6. Who, at the age of forty-three, was the youngest man elected to the presidency?
 - a. Jimmy Carter
 - b. Abraham Lincoln
 - c. John F. Kennedy
 - d. William McKinley

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- e. Ronald Reagan
7. Who was the oldest man, at age 70, to assume the presidency?
- a. Jimmy Carter
 - b. William McKinley
 - c. Joe Biden
 - d. Donald Trump
 - e. Ronald Reagan
8. In the context of American political history, which of the following statements is true of the religion of presidential candidates?
- a. For most of American history, presidential candidates were Greek Orthodox Christians.
 - b. Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis was a member of the Latter-Day Saints, commonly called the Mormons.
 - c. In 1928, Democrat Al Smith became the first Protestant to run for president on a major-party ticket.
 - d. In 1960, Democrat John F. Kennedy was elected as the first Catholic president.
 - e. In 2012, two of the top three finishers in the Republican primaries were Protestants.
9. Which role is the president fulfilling when he enforces laws and federal court decisions, along with treaties approved by the United States?
- a. The chief legislator
 - b. The commander in chief
 - c. The chief executive
 - d. The head of state
 - e. The chief diplomat
10. As chief executive, what does the president of the United States have the power to do?
- a. To make secret agreements with other countries
 - b. To appoint executive department heads
 - c. To call special sessions of Congress
 - d. To make pacts with other heads of state, without Senate approval
 - e. To veto a bill passed by Congress
11. A deadly flood in one state in the nation has caused massive destruction. Thousands of people have lost their lives. The president of the nation has declared a national emergency and ordered rescue operations to help survivors. If such a situation were to arise in the United States, which role would the president be performing?
- a. Chief executive
 - b. Commander in chief
 - c. Chief legislator
 - d. Head of state
 - e. Chief diplomat
12. In appointing James Mattis as the Secretary of Defense of the United States, President Donald Trump exercised which role as the nation's president?
- a. Chief diplomat

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- b. Head of state
 - c. Commander in chief
 - d. Chief legislator
 - e. Chief executive
13. Which of the following statements is true of the constitutional provisions of war powers in the United States?
- a. The president, as commander in chief of the armed forces, has the power to declare war.
 - b. Congress has the sole power to deploy the armed forces.
 - c. Congress has the power to raise and maintain the country's armed forces.
 - d. The president is required to notify Congress within twenty-four hours of deploying troops.
 - e. Congress has the power to commit troops for up to fifty days in response to a military threat.
14. Which of the following duties is performed by the president of the United States as head of state?
- a. Making secret agreements with other countries
 - b. Granting reprieves, pardons, and amnesties
 - c. Decorating war heroes
 - d. Making pacts with other heads of state
 - e. Deploying the armed forces
15. The president of the United States is invited to the NBA (National Basketball Association) opening ceremony to shoot the first ball into the basket and declare the basketball season open. In this scenario, which role is the president fulfilling?
- a. Chief executive
 - b. Commander in chief
 - c. Chief legislator
 - d. Head of state
 - e. Chief diplomat
16. Which of the following duties is performed by the president as the nation's chief diplomat?
- a. Handling national emergencies during peacetime
 - b. Suggesting a budget to Congress and submitting the annual economic report
 - c. Leading the nation's armed forces
 - d. Serving as the ceremonial head of the government
 - e. Recognizing and interacting with foreign governments
17. As chief diplomat of the United States, what does the president do?
- a. Handles national emergencies during peacetime
 - b. Calls special sessions of Congress
 - c. Deploys the nation's armed forces
 - d. Negotiates and signs treaties with other nations, with Senate approval
 - e. Suggests a budget to Congress and submits the annual economic report
18. In which role can the president of the United States veto a bill passed by Congress and call special sessions of Congress?
- a. Chief diplomat

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- b. Head of state
 - c. Commander in chief
 - d. Chief legislator
 - e. Chief executive
19. Which of the following is a duty of the president of the United States as political party leader?
- a. Electing a Senate member as the *de facto* leader of his or her party
 - b. Submitting the annual economic report to Congress
 - c. Appointing a fund-raiser in chief to assist in raising funds for his or her party
 - d. Choosing the vice president from his or her party
 - e. Appointing members only from his or her party to form the cabinet
20. Which role is the president playing when he tries to execute the party's platform?
- a. Head of state
 - b. Commander in chief
 - c. Party chairperson
 - d. Political party leader
 - e. Chief diplomat
21. Why do elected officials often indulge in the practice of patronage? Because they:
- a. need money to pay national debts.
 - b. are beholden to the party members who put them in office.
 - c. are required to appoint Congress members from the members of the winning team.
 - d. prefer to be diplomatic in their approach.
 - e. are the *de facto* leaders of their political parties?
22. Martha Jenkins publicly endorsed James Farrell in his presidential campaign. After winning the presidential election, Farrell appointed Jenkins as the Secretary of Commerce to reward her for her support. In this scenario, Farrell indulged in what practice?
- a. Whistleblowing
 - b. Sponsorship
 - c. Negotiation
 - d. Patronage
 - e. Diplomacy
23. Which of the following statements is true of a treaty?
- a. The president has the sole power to negotiate and sign a treaty with another country.
 - b. A treaty is a formal agreement between the president and Congress.
 - c. If a treaty is approved by the House of Representatives, it becomes law.
 - d. A treaty is effective only with a hundred percent vote from the president's political party.
 - e. A treaty can only be approved by the chief justice of the United States.
24. What is true about the ratification of a treaty?
- a. A treaty can only be negotiated and signed by Congress.

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- b. A treaty can only be approved by the president of the United States.
 - c. A treaty is effective only with a hundred percent vote from the president's political party.
 - d. A treaty needs to be approved by a fifty percent vote of the Senate.
 - e. A treaty becomes law when it is approved by the Senate and signed by the president.
25. The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty was aimed at prohibiting what?
- a. Secret international agreements with other countries
 - b. The testing of nuclear weapons
 - c. Genetic testing on humans
 - d. Research studies based on animal testing
 - e. The misuse of presidential power
26. Congress agreed to vote the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) up or down without amendments under what doctrine or authority?
- a. Clemency
 - b. Fast-track authority
 - c. The doctrine of necessity
 - d. A line-item veto
 - e. The czar system
27. The president's power to grant a pardon serves as a check on what power?
- a. Gubernatorial power
 - b. Executive power
 - c. Legislative power
 - d. Bureaucratic power
 - e. Judicial power
28. What is true about a pardon?
- a. It partially restores a person's rights and privileges of citizenship.
 - b. It may be granted to a class of individuals as a general amnesty.
 - c. It is a monetary reward given to prisoners for good behavior in prison.
 - d. It serves as a check on the federal legislature.
 - e. It empowers Congress to regulate the powers of the president.
29. The president of a country releases a former colleague from criminal punishment. The colleague had been charged with treason. Which of the following presidential powers is illustrated in this scenario?
- a. The power to influence the Supreme Court
 - b. The power to persuade other parties
 - c. The power to veto bills
 - d. The power to grant pardons
 - e. The power to sign statements
30. What is the term for the refusal by an official, such as the president of the United States or a state governor, to sign a bill into law?

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- a. Veto
- b. Writ
- c. Subpoena
- d. Pardon
- e. Reprieve

31. Which of the following statements is true of the president's veto power?

- a. If the president does not send a bill back to Congress after ten congressional working days, the bill is killed for that session of Congress.
- b. Congress can override a presidential veto with a two-thirds vote by the members present in each chamber.
- c. The president can override a congressional veto by a two-thirds majority vote from his or her political party.
- d. If the president signs a bill within ten congressional working days after the bill is submitted, the result is a pocket veto.
- e. The result of a presidential veto override by Congress is that the bill is reintroduced in the next session of Congress.

32. What happens when the president issues a pocket veto?

- a. The president does not send a bill back to Congress within ten congressional working days.
- b. The president sends a bill back to Congress after rejecting just one item in the bill on the grounds of constitutionality.
- c. Congress overrides a presidential veto with a two-thirds vote by the members present in each chamber within ten congressional working days.
- d. The president refuses to sign a bill, and Congress adjourns within ten working days after the bill has been submitted to the president.
- e. Congress revises a bill after a presidential veto, and the president approves the revised bill within ten congressional working days.

33. In addition to the powers explicitly granted by the U.S. Constitution, the president also has what other type of powers that are necessary to carry out the specific responsibilities of the president as set forth in the Constitution?

- a. Legislative powers
- b. Executive powers
- c. Supremacy powers
- d. Inherent powers
- e. Hereditary powers

34. President Cooper is a strong advocate of free higher education for all. In an attempt to gain favor from the masses for his legislative agenda, he has appeared on several news channels to talk about the importance of higher education in the country. He even appeared on an episode of "Child Speak," an educational television show for children, to express his vision. From President Cooper's actions, it is evident that he is employing what type of strategy?

- a. Going public
- b. Going out
- c. Microtargeting
- d. Filibustering
- e. A blanket primary

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35. In what way does the president's power influence the country's economy?
- The president's ability to control the level of economic activity is not subject to any limits.
 - The president must go public to influence the economy of the country.
 - Each year, the president sends Congress a suggested budget about the amounts of money the government will need for its programs.
 - The president sends the *President's Finance Report*, which recommends ways to improve the nation's economy, to Congress.
 - Every two years, the president sends a suggested budget report that presents the current state of the nation's economy to his political party.
36. Which of the following statements is true of an executive order?
- It is also called a pocket veto.
 - It is issued by Congress with the approval of the president.
 - It is not an inherent power of the president.
 - It is rarely issued by the president.
 - It has the force of law.
37. Which of the following statements is true of executive agreements?
- They do not have the same legal status as treaties.
 - They deal solely with domestic affairs.
 - They are pacts between the federal government and the state governments.
 - They enhance presidential power in foreign affairs.
 - They are used far less than treaties in making foreign policy.
38. What is the difference between a treaty and an executive agreement?
- An executive agreement requires approval from the House of Representatives.
 - An executive agreement does not deal with foreign affairs.
 - An executive agreement is not initiated by the president.
 - An executive agreement requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.
 - An executive agreement does not require Senate approval.
39. The president of a nation signs an agreement with the president of another nation. The agreement provides that nation one will help nation two build its infrastructure in exchange for a permit to conduct oil drilling operations off the coast of nation two. What type of agreement is this?
- Compatibility agreement
 - Presidential agreement
 - Executive agreement
 - Legislative agreement
 - State agreement
40. What does the War Powers Resolution of 1973 require the president to do?
- Take the prior approval of the Senate before signing any executive agreement
 - Obtain a two-thirds vote of the Senate before declaring war
 - Notify Congress within forty-eight hours of deploying troops
 - Declare war without congressional approval if it is deemed necessary

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- e. Inform Congress within sixty days of making an executive agreement
41. The U.S. president travels at all times with a briefcase called the "football." Which of the following best describes the contents of the "football"?
- a. The presidential plans to deal with an emergency
 - b. The codes used to launch a nuclear attack
 - c. The details of America's most-wanted criminals
 - d. The passwords of highly confidential presidential accounts
 - e. The treaties signed with other nations
42. What power gives Congress an advantage over the president?
- a. Congress grants reprieves and pardons.
 - b. Congress can regulate foreign and interstate commerce.
 - c. Congress can influence public opinions.
 - d. Congress deals with national crises.
 - e. Congress makes decisions in foreign affairs.
43. In the context of the American system of government, which of the following statements is true of the president and members of Congress?
- a. Both have a common national focus.
 - b. Both face different election cycles.
 - c. Both have similar constituencies.
 - d. Neither has the power to appropriate budgetary money.
 - e. Neither has the power to set foreign policies.
44. In what way does the president have an advantage over Congress?
- a. The president authorizes legislation.
 - b. The president regulates foreign and interstate commerce.
 - c. The president appropriates budgetary money.
 - d. The president formally declares war.
 - e. The president influences public opinion.
45. Two nations are hit by an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.8. Houses are destroyed, lives are lost, and all communication links are disrupted. If such a national crisis were to occur in the United States, who would have the power to make decisions and present the state's plight to other nations?
- a. President
 - b. Secretary of state
 - c. Secretary of defense
 - d. House of Representatives
 - e. Senate
46. Which of the following statements is true of executive privilege?
- a. It is nontransferable to successors in a particular executive post.
 - b. It is described explicitly in the Constitution of the United States.
 - c. It protects the privacy of the Senate.

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- d. It gives the president the power to refuse to appear before the courts.
 - e. It is claimed by members of Congress.
47. President Sanders receives information about the operations of a global terrorist organization. He orders an investigation of the whereabouts of the terrorists and their plan of action. He decides to withhold this information from Congress to ensure that there is no interference or compromise in national security. By withholding information from Congress, President Sanders is exerting which power?
- a. Veto power
 - b. Executive privilege
 - c. Enumerated power
 - d. Fundamental right
 - e. Judicial privilege
48. What is true about the formal cabinet of the United States?
- a. The use of the cabinet by the president is not discretionary.
 - b. At present, the cabinet consists of only four officials.
 - c. The president always relies heavily on the advice of the formal cabinet.
 - d. The U.S. Constitution requires the president to consult with the cabinet.
 - e. The president selects the members of the cabinet.
49. During his first hundred days in office, what did President Trump do?
- a. Released his income tax returns
 - b. Scheduled only one cabinet meeting
 - c. Issued more presidential memorandums than any president in history
 - d. Suspended the deportation of several million illegal immigrants
 - e. Allowed the admission of refugees from Syria
50. What is the personal office of the president of the United States?
- a. The White House Office
 - b. The Presidential Townhouse
 - c. The Executive Residence
 - d. Camp David
 - e. The Office of Administration
51. What is true about the White House Office?
- a. All of the White House staff members are also members of the president's official cabinet.
 - b. The White House Office consists of an informal group of unofficial advisers to the president.
 - c. The White House staff screens the questions, issues, and problems that people present to the president.
 - d. The White House Office excludes the staff of the president's spouse.
 - e. Of all the executive staff agencies, the White House Office has the least contact with the president.
52. What is true about the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)?
- a. The OMB assists the president in preparing the proposed annual budget.
 - b. The OMB assists the president in preparing the proposed annual budget.

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- c. The OMB is an influential unit of the White House Office.
 - d. The duty of the director of the OMB is to support the Senate's views on the budget.
 - e. The OMB implements the annual budget.
53. Which of the following statements is true of presidential succession in the United States?
- a. The Twenty-second Amendment addresses the question of how the vice president should fill a vacant presidency.
 - b. If the president becomes incapable of carrying out necessary duties while in office, the Senate elects a new president from among its members.
 - c. In the event of the death or resignation of the president, the president's son or daughter is appointed the next president.
 - d. The vice president is in a position to become the nation's chief executive should the president die, be impeached and convicted, or resign the presidential office.
 - e. If the vice president temporarily fills the office of president, a hundred percent vote of both chambers of Congress is required for the vice president to remain acting president.
54. The vice president serves as acting president if the president is unable to discharge the normal functions of the presidential office because of a disability. If a dispute arises over the return of the president's ability to discharge his or her functions, what is required if the vice president is to remain acting president?
- a. A three-fourths vote of both chambers of Congress
 - b. A two-thirds vote of both chambers of Congress
 - c. A two-thirds vote of the members of the Senate
 - d. A one-third vote by the members present in each congressional chamber
 - e. A one-fourth vote by the members present in each congressional chamber
55. Explain the presidential pardon process.
56. Discuss the difference between a veto and a pocket veto.
57. Discuss the president's role in passing legislation.
58. Discuss the relationship between Congress and the president in the legislative process.
59. Discuss the selection of the role of the cabinet in serving the president.
60. Discuss the role of the National Security Council in helping the president carry out his foreign policy.
61. Discuss the U.S. president's appointment power.
62. In the context of the American system of government, describe the advantages Congress has over the president.
63. Discuss the responsibilities of the staff of the White House Office.
64. In the context of presidential and vice-presidential vacancies in the United States, discuss the provisions of the Twenty-fifth Amendment to the Constitution.
65. Article II of the U.S. Constitution states that the executive power shall be vested in whom?
- a. The chief justice of the United States

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- b. The Supreme Court of the United States
 - c. The president of the United States
 - d. The United States Congress
 - e. The vice-president of the United States
66. Which agreement, signed by America and Russia in December 2010, reduced by half the number of nuclear missiles in both countries and provided for inspections?
- a. Pactum Warmundi
 - b. Trans-Pacific Partnership
 - c. New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
 - d. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty
 - e. North American Free Trade Agreement
67. Who was the first president to define the presidential power to appoint and remove officials of the federal
- a. Jimmy Carter
 - b. Abraham Lincoln
 - c. George Washington
 - d. Thomas Jefferson
 - e. Donald Trump
68. The War Powers Resolution of 1973 is intended to check the president's power to do what?
- a. Pass legislation and appropriate the military budget
 - b. Raise and maintain the country's armed forces
 - c. Sign peace treaties to end wars with other nations
 - d. Involve the nation in a war without the consent of Congress
 - e. Put the draft into place
69. Of all of the executive staff agencies, which group has the most direct contact with the president?
- a. White House Office
 - b. National Security Council
 - c. Office of Management and Budget
 - d. Office of Administration
 - e. Federal Emergency Management Association
70. What does the press secretary of the White House Office do?
- a. Handles the president's legal matters
 - b. Directs the operations of the presidential staff
 - c. Holds news conferences for reporters
 - d. Supervises the staff of the president's spouse
 - e. Makes legal decisions for the president
71. Which amendment to the U.S. Constitution states that when the president believes that he or she is incapable of performing the duties of the office, he or she must inform Congress in writing of this fact
- a. Fifth Amendment

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- b. Twenty-Fifth Amendment
- c. Nineteenth Amendment
- d. Twenty-Seventh Amendment
- e. Fourth Amendment

72. In 1973, who became the first appointed vice president of the United States after Spiro Agnew was forced to resign?

- a. Gerald Ford
- b. Ronald Reagan
- c. Al Gore
- d. Dick Cheney
- e. Joe Biden

73. In case both the president and the vice president die, resign, or are disabled, which act directs that the Speaker of the House of Representatives will act as president upon her or his resignation as Speaker and as representative?

- a. Civil Rights Act of 1964
- b. Succession Act of 1947
- c. Uniform Transfer of Litigation Act of 1991
- d. Judiciary Act of 1925
- e. Insurrection Act of 1807