

20. This amendment to the Constitution established term limits for the president.
- Twelfth
 - Twenty-Second
 - Twenty-Fifth
 - Twenty-First
 - First

Free-Response Questions

- The president is the single most powerful individual in government. Some of the president's most important responsibilities and powers fall in the area of national security.
 - Identify and explain two national security powers or responsibilities granted to the president in the Constitution.
 - Identify and describe two constitutional limitations on presidential national security power.
- The president plays an important policymaking role in the federal system.
 - Identify and explain two ways the president influences policy.
 - Identify and describe two limitations on the president's policymaking power.

□ Answers and Explanations

Multiple-Choice Questions

- Congress can override a presidential veto of legislation.
 - (a) is incorrect because the power to override a veto belongs to Congress.
 - (b) is incorrect because the vice-president does not have a role in overriding a veto.
 - (c) is incorrect because state legislatures do not have a role in overriding a veto.
 - (d) is incorrect because the House Rules committee does not have the power to override a veto.
 - (e) is correct because, while a presidential veto usually effectively kills proposed legislation, Congress can override the veto with a two-thirds majority vote in both houses, and has done so in about four percent of the vetoes. The Constitution gives the president the power to veto as a means to check Congress, and it gives Congress the power to override a veto as a means of checking the president.

Page reference: 415, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

2. According to the Constitution, the vice president
- (a) is incorrect because the vice president is not assigned the task of chairing cabinet meetings.
 - (b) is incorrect because the vice president is eligible to run for president after serving two terms as vice president.
 - (c) is correct because the Constitution assigns vice presidents the relatively minor tasks of presiding over the Senate and voting in case of a tie among the senators.**
 - (d) is incorrect because there is no constitutional requirement for the vice president to be of the same party as the president.
 - (e) is incorrect because the vice president does not serve on the Council of Economic Advisors.

Page reference: 409, AP Topic: The Presidency

3. Which of the following presidential appointments requires Senate confirmation?
- (a) is incorrect because the press secretary is part of the president's personal staff of advisors and these appointments do not require Senate approval.
 - (b) is incorrect because the chief of staff is part of the president's personal staff of advisors and these appointments do not require Senate approval.
 - (c) is incorrect because the White House counsel is part of the president's personal staff of advisors and these appointments do not require Senate approval.
 - (d) is incorrect because the Council of Economic Advisors is part of the president's personal staff of advisors and these appointments do not require Senate approval.
 - (e) is correct, because they are a member of the president's cabinet, nominees for Secretary of State must be confirmed by the Senate.**

Page reference: 410, AP Topic: The Presidency

4. All of the following are true statements about the impeachment process EXCEPT
- (a) is incorrect because the chief justice of the Supreme Court does preside over the presidential impeachment process.
 - (b) is correct because the Supreme Court plays no role in the presidential impeachment process.**

(c) is incorrect because the presidential impeachment trial does have to be public.

(d) is incorrect because the Senate does serve as the jury in the presidential impeachment trial.

(e) is incorrect because the House of Representatives does bring the formal charges against the president in the presidential impeachment process.

Page reference: 403–404, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

5. A president is most likely to gain public support for a public policy proposal by

(a) is incorrect because having the vice president conduct high-profile town meetings is not as effective in gaining public support for a public policy proposal as the president appealing to the public directly.

(b) is incorrect because placing ads in respected newspapers is not as effective in gaining public support for a public policy proposal as the president appealing to the public directly.

(c) is incorrect because vetoing a bill is not as effective in gaining public support for a public policy proposal as the president appealing to the public directly.

(d) is correct because public support is one of president's most important resources for getting their policy agenda enacted. Presidents who have the backing of the public have an easier time influencing Congress. Using the mass media to directly appeal to the public is an effective tool for gaining public support.

(e) is incorrect because including the proposal in his or her party platform is not as effective in gaining public support for a public policy proposal as the president appealing to the public directly.

Page reference: 420, AP Topic: The Presidency

6. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment is significant because it

(a) is correct because the Twenty-Fifth Amendment, passed in 1967, is significant because it clarifies the terms under which the vice president may become president in the event that the president becomes disabled. It also outlines how a recuperated president can reclaim the job.

(b) is incorrect because this is an inaccurate description of the 25th Amendment.

(c) is incorrect because the 25th Amendment does not deal with impeachment.

(d) is incorrect because the 25th Amendment does not deal with the creation of new cabinet positions.

(e) is incorrect because the 25th Amendment does not deal with the role of Congress in foreign policy.

Page reference: 401–403, AP Topic: The Presidency

7. One of the primary tools presidents use to control the bureaucracy is

(a) is incorrect because the line-item veto is not a tool of the president.

(b) is incorrect because congressional oversight committees are not tools the president uses to control the bureaucracy.

(c) is incorrect because campaign finance reform is not a tool the president uses to control the bureaucracy.

(d) is correct because the power to appoint and remove top-level administrators gives the president significant influence over what the federal bureaucracy does or does not do.

(e) is incorrect because the presidential power to pardon is not a tool the president uses to control the bureaucracy.

Page reference: 408–413, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

8. Which of the following statements about the president as commander in chief is true?

(a) is incorrect because only Congress has the power to declare war.

(b) is correct because, as commander in chief of military forces, the president decides if and when American armed forces use weapons of mass destruction in times of war.

(c) is incorrect because a president's prior military experience is not a factor in the exercise of presidential power.

(d) is incorrect because the president does not have to consult with the Joint Chiefs of Staff before deploying the military.

(e) is incorrect because the president is not a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Page reference: 424, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

9. Which of the following are powers of the president?

(a) is incorrect because I and III are also powers belonging to the president.

(b) is incorrect because presidents nominate federal court judges, but they cannot remove them from their seats once the Senate has confirmed them because federal judges hold their positions for life.

(c) is correct because, according to the Constitution, presidents have the power to conduct diplomacy, negotiate treaties with foreign countries, and appoint members of their cabinet.

(d) is incorrect because III is not a power which belongs to the president.

(e) is incorrect because III is not a power which belongs to the president.

Page reference: 405–408, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

10. Which of the following is NOT in the line of presidential succession?

(a) is correct because the chief justice is not in the line of presidential succession. The Constitution authorizes the vice president to take over the office of the presidency if the president dies, resigns, is impeached, or is otherwise unable to perform his duties.

(b) is incorrect because the Secretary of State, as a cabinet member, is in the line of presidential succession.

(c) is incorrect because the Secretary of the Interior, as a cabinet member, is in the line of presidential succession.

(d) is incorrect because the Attorney General, as a cabinet member, is in the line of presidential succession.

(e) is incorrect because the Speaker of the House is in the line of presidential succession.

Page reference: 401–403, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

11. The vice president possesses only one real constitutional duty, which is

(a) is correct because the Constitution assigns vice presidents the minor tasks of presiding over the Senate and voting in case of a tie among senators.

(b) is incorrect because the Constitution does not give the vice president the task of serving as an advisor to the Supreme Court.

(c) is incorrect because the Constitution does not give the vice president the task of breaking tie votes in the House of Representatives.

(d) is incorrect because the Constitution does not give the vice president the task of serving as chief diplomat.

(e) is incorrect because the Constitution does not give the vice president the task of serving as the president of the House of Representatives.

Page reference: 409, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

12. This is a formal agreement negotiated by the president of the United States and one or more nations, requiring approval of the Senate by a two-thirds vote.

(a) is correct because a treaty is a formal, public agreement between the United States and one or more nations that must be approved by two-thirds of the Senate.

(b) is incorrect because an executive order does not have to be approved by the Senate.

(c) is incorrect because an executive agreement does not have to be approved by the Senate.

(d) is incorrect because an executive memorandum does not have to be approved by the Senate.

(e) is incorrect because a mandate is a claim of public support and not a formal power of the president.

Page reference: 423, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

13. All of the following are powers of the president EXCEPT

(a) is incorrect because the power to convene Congress is a power which belongs to the president.

(b) is incorrect because the power to nominate federal judges is a power which belongs to the president.

(c) is incorrect because the power to veto legislation is a power which belongs to the president.

(d) is correct because the power to declare war belongs to Congress and not to the president.

(e) is incorrect because the power to recognize diplomats is a power which belongs to the president.

Page reference: 405–408, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

14. The President and Congress tend to agree
- (a) is correct because the “honeymoon” period occurs at the beginning of a new president’s term and it is the period during which the president enjoys generally positive relations with the press and Congress, usually lasting about six months.
 - (b) is incorrect because the “honeymoon” period is approximately the first six months of the president’s first term.
 - (c) is incorrect because the “honeymoon” period is approximately the first six months of the president’s first term.
 - (d) is incorrect because the “honeymoon” period is approximately the first six months of the president’s first term.
 - (e) is incorrect because the “honeymoon” period is approximately the first six months of the president’s first term.

Page reference: 420–421, AP Topics: The Presidency and The major formal and informal institutional arrangements of power

15. The body within the White House Staff of the President that advises the president on economic issues is
- (a) is incorrect because the Treasury Office is not part of the White House Staff.
 - (b) is correct because the National Economic Council is a division of the policy offices housed in the White House Staff and it advises the president on economic issues.
 - (c) is incorrect because the Office of Management and Budget is not part of the White House Staff.
 - (d) is incorrect because the Council of Economic Advisors is not part of the White House Staff.
 - (e) is incorrect because the Federal Reserve is not part of the White House Staff.

Page reference: 412, AP Topic: The Presidency

16. Which of the following are the formal constitutional qualifications for becoming president?
- (a) is incorrect because I and II are only two of the three constitutional qualifications for president.
 - (b) is incorrect because III and V are not constitutional qualifications for president.
 - (c) is incorrect because V is not a constitutional qualification for president.

(d) is correct because the constitutional qualifications for becoming president are that the individual must be a resident of the U.S. for at least 14 years, must be at least 35 years old, and must be a natural born citizen.

(e) is incorrect because V is not a constitutional qualification for president.

Page reference: MyPoliSciLab/ Constitution, AP Topics: The Presidency and The Constitution

17. All of the following are in the Executive Office of the President EXCEPT

(a) is incorrect because the Council of Economic Advisors is part of the Executive Office of the president.

(b) is correct because the General Accounting Office is a congressional office and not part of the Executive Office of the president.

(c) is incorrect because the National Security Council is part of the Executive Office of the president.

(d) is incorrect because the Office of the Vice President is part of the Executive Office of the president.

(e) is incorrect because the Office of Management and Budget is part of the Executive Office of the president.

Page reference: 411, AP Topics: The Presidency and Congress

18. The annual statement the president presents to Congress and the nation is called the

(a) is incorrect because the State of the Country Address is an inaccurate selection for the description provided.

(b) is incorrect because the State of the Budget Address is an inaccurate selection for the description provided.

(c) is correct because the State of the Union Address is the annual statement the president gives to Congress and to the nation.

(d) is incorrect because the State of the State Address is an inaccurate selection for the description provided.

(e) is incorrect because the Congressional Oversight Address is an inaccurate selection for the description provided.

Page reference: 415, AP Topics: The Presidency and Congress

19. The director of which of the following departments is considered MOST central to the president's agencies?
- (a) is incorrect because, even though the Department of Energy provides important information to the president, it is not considered MOST central to the president's agencies.
- (b) is correct because the director of the Office of Management and Budget heads the department that prepares the president's budget and also advises presidents on proposals from departments and agencies and helps review their proposed regulations.**
- (c) is incorrect because, even though the Department of Defense provides important information to the president, it is not considered MOST central to the president's agencies.
- (d) is incorrect because, even though the Department of Homeland Security provides important information to the president, it is not considered MOST central to the president's agencies.
- (e) is incorrect because, even though the Department of Treasury provides important information to the president, it is not considered MOST central to the president's agencies.

Page reference: 410, AP Topic: The Presidency

20. This amendment to the Constitution established term limits for the president.
- (a) is incorrect because the Twelfth Amendment required the joint listing of the presidential and vice presidential candidates on the same ballot.
- (b) is correct because the Twenty-second Amendment limits the president to two terms, or ten years total.**
- (c) is incorrect because the Twenty-fifth Amendment provided for presidential succession.
- (d) is incorrect because the Twenty-first Amendment ended prohibition.
- (e) is incorrect because the First Amendment provides for basic civil liberties.

Page reference: 401, AP Topics: The Presidency and the Constitution

Free-Response Questions

This rubric provides examples of many, but not all of the possible correct responses to the free-response questions.

1. The president is the single most powerful individual in government. Some of the president's most important responsibilities and powers fall in the area of national security.
- a. Identify and explain two national security powers or responsibilities granted to the president in the Constitution.

- **Commander in chief.** Because the framers wanted civilian control of the military, they made the president commander in chief of the armed forces. As commander in chief, the president controls where and how the military is deployed. The president also commands the vast arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. While only Congress can declare war, the president can interject U.S. troops into armed conflict on a limited basis.
 - **Diplomatic powers.** The president alone extends diplomatic recognition to foreign governments. The president can also terminate relations with other countries.
 - **Power to make treaties with other nations.** The president has the sole power to negotiate treaties with other countries, although the Constitution requires the Senate to approve them by a two-thirds vote.
- b. Identify and describe two constitutional limitations on presidential national security power.
- Although the president has power to deploy U.S. troops, only Congress has the constitutional power to declare war.
 - Treaties that presidents negotiate with foreign countries must be approved by a two-thirds vote in the Senate.
 - Congress has the power of the purse. A president's national security agenda requires a willingness on the part of Congress to appropriate the necessary funds to support it.
2. The president plays an important policymaking role in the federal system.
- a. Identify and explain two ways the president influences policy.
- **Executive orders.** The president can issue executive orders that have the effect of law. These can be powerful tools for the president to change the course of policy. For example, President Harry Truman used an executive order to desegregate the armed forces.
 - **Setting the legislative agenda.** Many presidents play major roles in setting the agenda of Congress. They not only make policy proposals but also use lobbyists to steward proposals through the policymaking process.