

## What Does the Constitution say about the President of the United States?

1. What are the requirements for becoming President? (Article II, section 1, clause 5)
2. What specific role does the President play in the military? What do you think this means? (A2, S2, C1)
3. What special power does the President have regarding people found guilty of crimes against the government? (A2, S2, C1)
4. How are ambassadors, federal judges and other “Officers of the United States” given their jobs? (A2, S2, C2)
5. Read the Oath of Office in Article II, Section 1, clause 8. In your own words, describe the type of person needed to successfully fulfill this oath. Use at least four specific characteristics.
6. To who is the President required to give a speech and how often must he speak? (A2, S3)
7. How long is the term for the President? (A2, S1, C1)
8. According to the 20<sup>th</sup> **Amendment**, on what day and month does the new President’s term begin (and the old President’s term ends)?
9. According to the 22<sup>nd</sup> **Amendment** (section 1), how many terms can a President serve?
10. Why do you think there was a limit placed on how long a President can serve? Is this a good idea?
11. Describe the reasons why a President can be removed from office. (A2, S4)
12. Who takes over for the President if they are unable to perform their duties? (A2, S1, C6)
13. Do you think it is really possible for **ANYONE** to become President of the United States? Explain why or why not based on your understanding of what the Constitution states about the job requirements.

# **The Duties of the President of the United States**

(aka “The Leader of the Free World”)

## **HEAD OF STATE**

- The “face” of the United States of America. He is “America” to everyone in the world.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

- Checks and balances the legislative – vetoes bills as necessary
- Checks and balances the judicial – appoints judges
- Selects the executive secretaries – cabinet – to enforce all laws in the country

## **CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR**

- Responsible for making sure everything is running smoothly throughout the country
- Responsible for enforcing all federal laws to ensure the common welfare of Americans

## **CHIEF DIPLOMAT**

- Meets with foreign leaders and represents the United States to the rest of the World
- Looks out for America’s best interests and influences foreign affairs

## **CHIEF LEGISLATOR**

- Suggests laws for Congress to pass to improve the common welfare – State of the Union
- Proposes annual budget of how much money the government should spend

## **COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

- The civilian commander of the American military forces. Appoints top generals.
- Involved in all decisions about using military force and going to war.

## **HEAD OF THE POLITICAL PARTY**

- Represents and promotes their political party’s goals
- Expected to make good on the promises they made to those who got them elected – pressure!

## **REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE**

- The leader of the America we want to be and hope to become.
- The President is us and we are him. Make us proud!