

Name \_\_\_\_\_ The Executive Branch - Briefly

Skim, scan and read the student friendly version of Article II of the U.S. Constitution that was given to you in class. If you don't have it with you, find it on Ms. Dill's webpage or look up the real Constitution on-line and try your best to complete the worksheet.

**Multiple Choice:** Read all choices before answering. Choose the best answer and write the matching letter on the line.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ To find the laws about the Executive Branch, I should look in:

- a. The Preamble
- b. Article 1
- c. Article 2
- d. The Bill of Rights

2. \_\_\_\_\_ I know that the head of the Executive Branch is...

- a. The President
- b. The Vice-President
- c. The Congress
- d. The People

3. \_\_\_\_\_ If you were elected as President, for how many years would you serve in one term?

- a. two
- b. four
- c. six
- d. eight

4. \_\_\_\_\_ The President is chosen by a group of people called:

- a. delegates
- b. the legislature
- c. the electoral college
- d. the framers



**Short Answer (word or phrase):** Read each "fact." Find the place in Article II that relates to the fact. Read the question and write a short answer on the line.

5. **Fact:** The number of electors from a state is equal to the number of senators plus the number of representatives from that state.

How many electors will be allowed for Maine?

\_\_\_\_\_

_____ # of senators from the state
+
_____ # of reps from that state
=
_____ # of electoral votes from that state

6. **Fact:** Ms. Dill was born in Connecticut in 1963, and has lived in Maine nearly her whole life.

According to the Constitution, does Ms. Dill have all the qualifications needed to run for the office of President?

\_\_\_\_\_ Write "Yes" or "No" on the line.

7. **Fact:** There is a specific order in which other government officials would become the President if the President were to leave office or die before the end of his/her term.

According to the Constitution, what is the phrase for this "order of replacement" for the position of President?

Presidential \_\_\_\_\_ (Find the word and write it on the line.)

8. **Fact:** There is a promise that the President makes to carry out the duties of the Presidency and to preserve and protect the Constitution.

What is the name for this promise?

\_\_\_\_\_



**Powers and Duties:** *The President has several things he or she can do, if necessary. These are called "powers." There are also several things he or she must do according to the Constitution. These are called "duties."*

*Being President is a hard job that requires long workdays and big responsibilities. It is also a very exciting job where you meet many interesting people and learn a lot everyday. Maybe you will want to be President someday!*

### **Powers:**

9. Carefully read **Article 2, Section 2, Clause 1, fourth bullet....**

Do you think most criminals would rather have a reprieve or a pardon?

Explain using the word **whereas** in your sentence to make the comparison clear.

(Hint: You may want to look at the vocabulary page to see the definitions for these words.)

I think most criminals would rather have a \_\_\_\_\_ because

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**Answer the next two questions by first restating the question fully.**

Take a look at **Clause 2**. It is called "Treaties and Appointments."

10. The President has the power to make treaties with foreign nations. What is a *treaty*?

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11. Notice there are three things listed in **Clause 2** as powers of the President. The approval of *what group* is required before the President is allowed to carry out some of his powers?

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12. **Read Section 2, Clause 2 - 2nd bullet.**

*Appointing justices to the Supreme Court is one of the most powerful and long-lasting powers that a President has while in office. The Supreme Court is the most powerful court in the U.S.A. The judges who work there are called justices and there are nine of them. Once a person becomes a justice, he or she can remain on the court for as long as they want and can never be fired or forced to retire. When a justice chooses to retire or unfortunately dies, **the President has the power to appoint a new Supreme Court justice**. Of course, the President will appoint a justice that seems to agree with his/her vision for the nation. This is an important Presidential power because the justice will be there for a long time, making decisions about how our nation's laws apply to citizens.*

\*\*Let's see if you can decode what the bolded phrase above really means!

a. Synonym for appoint: \_\_\_\_\_ (Look it up if you need to!)

We know one meaning for justice is fairness. In this context, it has a different meaning.

b. Synonym for justice: \_\_\_\_\_ (Look in the third sentence above.)

c. What does this sentence mean? ***The President has the power to appoint a new Supreme Court justice***.

This phrase means: *The President gets to \_\_\_\_\_ the new \_\_\_\_\_  
who will serve on the highest court in our country!*

**More Short Answers:**

13. If you wanted to know what duties the President of the United States has, where would you look to find out?

Document Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Article # \_\_\_\_\_

Section # \_\_\_\_\_



14. What is the annual speech given by the President called?

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Write the first and last name of the person who is the head of the executive branch today. \_\_\_\_\_

16. The last bullet in Section 3 says: "The President shall make sure the laws passed by Congress are 'faithfully executed' or \_\_\_\_\_."

17. What is the name of the process used to remove the President, Vice-President, and other federal officials from office if they are thought to have abused their position of power in some way?

\_\_\_\_\_



18. What is the name of this building, where the President lives and works?

\_\_\_\_\_

Now, go back and check all of your spelling and capitalization! Show your skills in using quality mechanics in your work!

