


# Roles Of The President Worksheet



Name \_\_\_\_\_ PW \_\_\_\_\_

## Roles of the President

**Directions:** After reading each of the historical actions of the President, decide which role, from the options below, the President was fulfilling.

	Commander in Chief Chief of State	Chief Executive Legislative Leader	Chief of Party Judicial Powers	Foreign Policy Leader Economic Leader
1	Abraham Lincoln, in 1862, freed top Union General George G. Meade. Lincoln had seen critical of Meade's passive battle field strategies and was convinced that he would not beat his Confederate counterpart, Robert E. Lee.			
2	In 1948, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9835. This executive order abolished (ended) racial discrimination in the United States Armed Forces and desegregated the troops.			
3	In July of 1969, President Richard Nixon flew to the USS Hauer in the Pacific Ocean to welcome back the crew of Apollo 11. The Apollo 11 mission sent the first man to the moon, Neil Armstrong.			
4	After winning the Presidency in 2016, Donald Trump began to pick a number of people to serve in his cabinet. For the Attorney General he picked Senator Jeff Sessions and for the Secretary of State he chose former ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson.			
5	President Richard Nixon and Soviet General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev signed the ABM Treaty and interim SALT agreement 1972, in Moscow. For the first time during the Cold War, the United States and Soviet Union had agreed to limit the number of nuclear missiles in their arsenals.			
6	By August 1945, WWII in Europe had ended, but the war against Japan was still going on. Combined a land invasion of Japan might result in the death of one million U.S. men. President Harry Truman made the decision to drop the newly created Atomic Bomb first on Hiroshima, Japan and then on Nagasaki, Japan. Each bomb would kill over 300,000, however Japan would surrender and WWII was over.			
7	In his first 100 days in office, President Roosevelt introduced many pieces of legislation aimed at bringing the United States out of the Great Depression. These laws fell into three categories: relief, reform, and recovery.			
8	After Hillary Clinton defeated Bernie Sanders in the 2016 Democratic Primary, President Barack Obama campaigned extensively for her in key battleground states.			
9	In order to stimulate the economy, President George W. Bush introduced a series of tax cuts for many Americans, but specifically for many of our highest earners in hopes that they would expand businesses and hire more workers.			
10	In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States by Ronald Reagan. After her Senate confirmation, she became the first female to serve on our nation's highest court.			

Roles of the president worksheet is a crucial educational tool designed to help students understand the multifaceted responsibilities and functions of the President of the United States. This worksheet serves as a comprehensive guide to the various roles that the president plays within the government and society as a whole. By breaking down these roles into manageable sections, students can engage with the content more effectively, fostering a deeper understanding of how the executive branch operates and the significance of presidential duties in the American political landscape.

## The Constitutional Basis of the Presidency

The presidency is established by the U.S. Constitution, which outlines the powers and responsibilities of the office. Article II of the Constitution provides the framework for the executive branch and highlights the key roles of the president.

## The Executive Power

- Chief Executive: The president serves as the chief executive officer of the nation, responsible for enforcing federal laws and overseeing the federal administration. This role involves:
- Appointing and removing federal officials, including Cabinet members and agency heads.
- Issuing executive orders to manage the operations of the federal government.
- Ensuring that laws passed by Congress are faithfully executed.

## **Commander in Chief**

- **Military Role:** As the commander in chief of the armed forces, the president has significant authority over military operations and national defense. This role includes:
- Making key military decisions, including troop deployments and strategies.
- Responding to international crises and conflicts.
- Working with Congress to authorize military actions and funding.

## **Legislative Responsibilities**

The president plays a vital role in the legislative process, influencing the creation of laws and policies.

## **Law-Making Powers**

- **Veto Power:** The president can reject legislation passed by Congress, effectively preventing it from becoming law. This power includes:
- Using the veto as a political tool to influence legislative priorities.
- Issuing a pocket veto by taking no action on a bill within ten days if Congress is adjourned.
- **State of the Union Address:** The president delivers an annual address to Congress, outlining the administration's agenda and priorities. This provides an opportunity to:
- Highlight key issues and propose new legislation.
- Rally support for the administration's goals.

## **Collaboration with Congress**

- **Working with Legislators:** The president must collaborate with both houses of Congress to achieve legislative goals. This includes:
- Engaging in negotiations and compromises with lawmakers.
- Building coalitions to support specific policies or initiatives.

## **Judicial Authority**

The president also has significant influence over the judiciary, particularly through appointments and the enforcement of judicial decisions.

## **Appointment Power**

- **Nominating Judges:** The president nominates justices to the Supreme Court and federal judges to

lower courts. This power includes:

- Selecting candidates who align with the president's judicial philosophy.
- Influencing the ideological balance of the judiciary for years to come.

## **Enforcement of Judicial Decisions**

- Upholding the Rule of Law: The president is responsible for enforcing federal court decisions, which may involve:
- Ensuring compliance with landmark rulings, such as those related to civil rights and liberties.
- Taking action to implement court orders when necessary.

## **Foreign Affairs and Diplomacy**

The president plays a critical role in shaping U.S. foreign policy and maintaining international relations.

### **Chief Diplomat**

- International Relations: The president represents the United States in diplomatic affairs, which includes:
- Negotiating treaties and agreements with other nations (subject to Senate approval).
- Appointing ambassadors to foreign countries and receiving foreign ambassadors in the U.S.
- Participating in international forums and summits to address global issues.

## **National Security and Foreign Policy**

- Strategic Decision-Making: The president is responsible for formulating and executing national security policy, which encompasses:
- Developing strategies to address threats to national security.
- Collaborating with intelligence agencies to assess risks and respond to global challenges.

## **Role as a Leader and Representative**

The president serves not only as a political leader but also as a representative of the American people.

### **Symbolic Leadership**

- National Figurehead: The president embodies the values and ideals of the nation, serving as a role

model for citizens. This role includes:

- Representing the U.S. at ceremonial events, both domestically and internationally.
- Addressing the nation during times of crisis to provide reassurance and leadership.

## **Influence on Public Opinion**

- Public Engagement: The president has the power to shape public discourse and influence opinions on critical issues through:
  - Public speeches, press conferences, and social media engagement.
  - Utilizing the "bully pulpit" to advocate for policies and rally public support.

## **Economic Responsibilities**

The president plays a crucial role in guiding the nation's economic policy and managing government finances.

## **Economic Policy Formulation**

- Budget Proposal: The president submits an annual budget proposal to Congress, outlining spending priorities and policy initiatives. This involves:
  - Balancing competing interests among various government agencies and programs.
  - Addressing issues such as taxation, spending, and economic growth.

## **Regulatory Authority**

- Implementing Economic Regulations: The president has the authority to influence economic regulations through:
  - Appointing heads of regulatory agencies that oversee industries such as finance, health care, and the environment.
  - Enacting executive orders that can have immediate economic impacts.

## **Conclusion**

Understanding the roles of the president worksheet is essential for students to grasp the complexities of the presidency and its significance in the U.S. political system. By examining the various functions of the president, including executive authority, legislative influence, judicial appointments, foreign relations, and economic management, students can appreciate the wide-ranging impact the president has on both domestic and international affairs. This knowledge not only prepares them for informed citizenship but also encourages critical thinking about the challenges and responsibilities inherent in the highest office of the land.

Through interactive worksheets and discussions, educators can facilitate a deeper exploration of these roles, promoting engagement and understanding among students as they prepare to navigate the intricacies of governance and civic responsibility.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the primary roles of the president outlined in the worksheet?**

The primary roles of the president include being the Commander-in-Chief, Chief Executive, Chief Diplomat, Legislative Leader, and Head of State.

### **How does the role of Commander-in-Chief impact military decisions?**

As Commander-in-Chief, the president has the authority to make key military decisions and deploy troops, although congressional approval is often required for prolonged military actions.

### **What responsibilities does the president have as the Chief Executive?**

As Chief Executive, the president is responsible for enforcing federal laws, overseeing the executive branch, and appointing federal officials.

### **In what ways does the president act as Chief Diplomat?**

The president acts as Chief Diplomat by negotiating treaties, directing foreign policy, and representing the U.S. in international affairs.

### **What is the significance of the president's role as Legislative Leader?**

The president's role as Legislative Leader involves influencing legislation, proposing bills, and working with Congress to achieve policy goals.

### **How does the president fulfill the role of Head of State?**

The president fulfills the role of Head of State by representing the nation at ceremonial events, promoting national unity, and performing symbolic duties.

### **What are some examples of executive orders issued by presidents?**

Examples of executive orders include actions on immigration policy, environmental regulations, and changes in labor practices.

## How can the president influence public opinion?

The president can influence public opinion through speeches, social media engagement, and addressing the nation during critical events.

## What is the role of the president in the budgetary process?

The president plays a crucial role in the budgetary process by proposing an annual budget to Congress and working to ensure its approval.

## How does the president's role vary in times of crisis?

In times of crisis, the president often takes on a more prominent leadership role, making swift decisions and communicating with the public to provide reassurance and guidance.

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