Roles & Responsibilities of the President of the United States
Article II of the Constitution

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 35 years old
- 14 year resident
- Natural born citizen:
  - 14th Amendment defines a “citizen” = "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

What does this mean? (don’t need to copy this part)

- Anyone born inside the United States
- Any Indian or Eskimo born in the United States, provided being a citizen of the U.S. does not impair the person’s status as a citizen of the tribe
- Any one born outside the United States, both of whose parents are citizens of the U.S., as long as one parent has lived in the U.S.
- Any one born outside the United States, if one parent is a citizen and lived in the U.S. for at least one year and the other parent is a U.S. national
- Any one born in a U.S. possession, if one parent is a citizen and lived in the U.S. for at least one year
- Any one found in the U.S. under the age of five, whose parentage cannot be determined, as long as proof of non-citizenship is not provided by age 21
- Any one born outside the United States, if one parent is an alien and as long as the other parent is a citizen of the U.S. who lived in the U.S. for at least five years (with military and diplomatic service included in this time)
Roles of POTUS

• The job of President has changed tremendously over the years
• Expansion of power
• We look to POTUS for leadership in so many areas
• Many areas that the Founding Fathers would never have imagined
• Federalist No. 70—Hamilton:
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vm7uZYyIX9I
Chief of State

• Acts as the example for and symbol of the United States
• Represents the US at special occasions and ceremonies
• Fills the role of a monarch (other countries)
Chief Executive

- CEO for the American Gov’t
- The boss of federal workers who work in many different departments
- Departments are responsible for carrying out the law
- Chooses cabinet members and numerous other positions
- White House Staff
- Chief of Staff ~ Mick Mulvaney
Chief Diplomat

- Conducts foreign policy by directing the actions of American ambassadors
- Negotiates and signs treaties & trade agreements (Senate approval)
- Works with the United Nations & other international groups
- Secretary of State = Mike Pompeo
- UN Ambassador nominee = Heather Nauert
Commander-in-Chief

- In charge of the military
- President decides where the armed forces will be stationed, weapons that will be used
- Gives the order to attack, control of nuclear capabilities
- Acting Sec. of Defense (Patrick M. Shanahan)
- Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the top military commander under the president (Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr.)
- War Powers Resolution ~ 1973
Chief Legislator

- Even though Congress has the power to make the laws, in recent years the president has set the legislative agenda.
- He will oftentimes work with members of Congress to promote his/her agenda.
- Presents his agenda to Congress in the annual State of the Union address.
- This role has expanded with time: Teddy Roosevelt, FDR, LBJ and now Obama (health care reform).
Bush speaking to Congress during his final State of the Union address
Chief of the Party

- By default, the president becomes the spokesperson for his political party
- Presidents help members of their party get elected or appointed
- Leads the fund-raising effort for his political party
- Gets to choose the party’s chairperson
Chief Guardian of the Economy

Monitors the economic health of the country:
- Unemployment
- Inflation, taxation, business
- The general welfare of the union
- Seen as the active manager of the economy
- Lots of debate about how much can the president really do to effect the economy
Conclusion

- Presidency has changed tremendously
- Most visible public office in the US

Key Questions:

- *How much power does the president really have to make change?*
- *How do you evaluate presidential success?*