

Name:

Executive Branch

Date:

Executive Branch Power Scenarios

Below are different scenarios describing situations that could occur with the President. Read each scenario and write down which power(s) the President is using. Also, write one quote from the scenario that supports your belief that a specific power was being used.

1) The current President has been trying to pass programs and propose laws that have continually been rejected by Congress or declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. Furthermore, the Supreme Court has been making decisions on cases that the President does not support. After twenty years of serving on the Supreme Court, the oldest judge is retiring, leaving a job opening. The President is excited about this and looks forward to appointing a judge that supports his points of view.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Congress approved a war 5 years ago. As the war went on, it became more and more unpopular with the United States citizens. People think that the war will never end and that too many American lives are being wasted on a war that is taking place half way around the world. The new President decides to end this war. He contacts the leader of the country the U.S. is fighting and says he wants to discuss peace.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Recently, there have been terrorist attacks in peaceful countries all around the globe. These attacks have targeted innocent civilians and have made citizens start to panic. The U.S. President decides that he needs to make sure America does not get attacked. He contacts the head of the FBI and the director of Homeland Security and tells them to use all their resources to hunt down any people suspected of planning illegal terrorist attacks in this country. He lets them know that the law supports their actions and that these people must be found and arrested.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) The President is nearing the end of his second term and cannot be reelected. He has not been happy about some of the court rulings that have put people in jail for long periods of time. He feels that, although they did commit a federal crime, the length of time they were in jail has been enough. He decides to have them released from prison.

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What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5) The President is a Republican and the Congress is made up of mostly Democrats. These two groups usually do not agree on the laws, rules, and way the country should be managed. Congress has continually passed laws that they know the President does not like. Every time they approve a bill, the President tells them he will not sign it into law and sends it back to them. Congress is clearly upset by this and is trying to gather enough votes to override the President's veto.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6) Another country has repeatedly threatened to attack the United States. Congress approved the U.S. to go war against this country to stop them from ever making good on their threats. The war is going well but a lot of American soldiers are dying. The lead U.S. general recommends to the President that they nuke a small city, in the enemy country, to force them to surrender. The President has to decide if he wants to command the troops to continue fighting or if he wants to drop a nuclear bomb.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7) After a long career, the Secretary of Defense is stepping down and making way for a new person to take over. This is an extremely important position in the United States government and it needs to be someone that the President trusts. After a long interview process the President decides on a person to fill this open position.

What power(s) is the President using? \_\_\_\_\_

What line from the scenario supports your opinion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Executive Branch Acronym

An acronym is an abbreviation used as a word which is formed from the first letters of the words which make it up. For example, the word "scuba" is an acronym for "self contained underwater breathing apparatus". The words that are used to make up the word "scuba" are all relevant to the meaning of the word. The acronym would not be "self contained underwater booger apparatus," since that would not make sense in relation to what scuba refers to.

For this assignment you need to create an acronym for the phrase "President." You can use single words or short phrases, but they must be relevant to what the phrase "President" stands for. For example, the letter "E" could stand for "executive order."

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Now that you have created an acronym for the word "President" you get to create a new acronym that references some aspect of the executive branch. You will come up with the acronym word and the words or phrases that make it up. For example:

P E R S O N	<u>OR</u>	L E A D S
O F		E V E R Y O N E
W O R T H		A N D
E T H I C S A N D		D E C I D E S O N
R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y		E A C H
		R U L E

You need to create 2 of these acronyms. Be creative!

Acronym #1

Acronym #2