**Study Guide for the Unit 4 - Executive Branch Test KEY**

**Presidency Basics**

1. Who heads the Executive Branch?
	* The President
2. Where in the Constitution is the Executive Branch set up?
	* Article II
3. What are the three formal requirements to be President?
	* 35 years old, 14 years a citizen, natural born citizen
4. How many years is a Presidential term?
	* 4 years
5. What are the term limits of a President? How many total years may a President serve?
	* 2 terms; 10 years

**Amendments to Know**

1. What does the 22nd Amendment do?
	* Imposes term limits on the President
2. What does the 25th Amendment do?
	* Set the order for Presidential succession and what happens in case of a Pres. disability
3. What does the 12th Amendment do?
	* Electors cast one vote for President and one vote for Vice President
4. What does the 23rd Amendment do?
	* Gave DC 3 Electoral College votes

**Powers of the President**

1. What are the five positions that a President appoints?
	* Ambassadors, federal judges, heads of agencies, Cabinet secretaries, military officers
2. What is amnesty? A pardon?
	* Amnesty - A group pardon for an offense against the government
	* Pardon – To release (an offender) from the legal consequences of an offense or conviction
3. Describe the President’s powers (executive orders, diplomatic and military powers, legislative and judicial powers)
	* Executive Powers – Executive orders (weight of law, but doesn’t need Congress approval); execute the laws; appointments to the Executive branch
	* Diplomatic/Military Powers – commission officers in military; Commander-in-Chief; make treaties; make executive agreements; diplomatic recognition
	* Legislative Powers – recommend legislation; veto power; sign legislation; call Congress into special session; deliver State of the Union
	* Judicial Powers – appoint federal judges; grant reprieves/pardons/etc.
4. Can the President declare war? Why or why not?
	* No. Only Congress has the power to declare war
5. What are the three parts of the War Powers Resolution?
	* President must notify Congress within 48 hours of using the troops
	* President can only use the troops for 60 days without Congressional approval
	* Congress can bring troops home by passing a Resolution
6. What is a persona non grata?
	* An “unwelcome person”
7. When does the President need Congressional (or just Senatorial) approval?
	* Implement the budget, appoint cabinet members, appoint judges, ratify treaties
8. Can the Supreme Court check the power of the President?
	* Yes, it can if he does something unconstitutional
9. What is a line item veto? Does the President have that power?
	* Vetoing certain parts of a bill. No, the President doesn’t have this power.

**Presidential Roles, Succession & the VP**

1. Know the roles of the President and have an example of each.
	* Chief of State
		+ He acts as the representative of the American people. Ex: Personal embodiment of the people
	* Chief Diplomat
		+ Negotiates with world leaders. Ex: nuclear weapon negotiations
	* Commander-in-Chief
		+ Leader of the military. Ex: Sending in troops
	* Chief of Party
		+ Leader of their political Party. Ex: Obama is the leader of the Democratic Party
	* Chief Executive
		+ Running the executive branch. Ex: using the Exec. Office of the President to help run the Exec. branch
	* Chief Administrator
		+ Director of the executive branch employees. Ex: He’s the boss
	* Chief Citizen
		+ Look out for all citizens welfare. Ex: Meat inspections, Clean Water, Food and Drug Acts
	* Chief Legislator
		+ Tries to get laws passed by Congress. Ex: telling Congress you want a law passed
2. What is the correct order for Presidential succession?
	* VP, Speaker of the House, President Pro Tempore, Cabinet members
3. What are the jobs of the Vice President?
	* Break a tie, serve as President of the Senate, Serve as President if needed

**Electoral College and Elections**

1. What is the Electoral College?
	* The group of people that elect the president
2. What does “winner take all” mean in regards to Electoral votes?
	* As long as you win by one vote, you win all the Electoral votes for the state
3. How do we figure out how many votes a state gets in the Electoral College?
	* Number of Representatives plus the number of Senators
4. What are the flaws in the Electoral College?
	* Winner of Popular Vote may not win
	* Electors are not required to vote in accord with popular vote
	* Possibility of the House deciding the election
5. Why is the Electoral College hard to change?
	* Because it would take a constitutional amendment
6. Why haven’t we changed the Electoral College system?
	* It’s difficult and we don’t know the consequences of changing it. It’s a known system.
7. Describe the steps of the Presidential Election Process.
	* Declare candidacy
	* Fundraise
	* Run in primaries and caucuses
	* Nomination at the Convention
	* Campaign for the fall election
	* November elections
	* Inauguration in January
8. Describe a caucus and primary. What is the purpose of these?
	* Caucus and primary - a preliminary election to select the candidates for an election (president)
	* Helps choose the nominees for an election (president)

**The Bureaucracy**

1. What is the Executive Office of the President?
	* Made up of the President’s closest advisors and assistants
2. How is the President’s Cabinet chosen?
	* Appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate
3. What are Independent Agencies?
	* Agencies of the Executive Branch found outside of the Cabinet.
4. You should be able to match the following positions with an example of what their job entails.
	* Press Secretary
		+ This person briefs the press on the day to day issues in the government.
	* Chief of Staff
		+ This person advises the President and manages the staff of the White House.
	* Secretary of State
		+ The President sends this person to resolve disputes between two nations.
	* Secretary of Treasury
		+ This person is in charge of making sure that currency is printed.
	* Attorney General
		+ This person is in charge of enforcing our nation’s laws.
	* Secretary of Defense
		+ This person is in charge of the military.
	* Secretary of Health and Human Services
		+ The Ebola virus is a threat that has come the US; this person would be in charge of the response.
	* Secretary of Interior
		+ The President is concerned about the environmental impact of drilling in Alaska, so he asks this person to brief him.
	* Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
		+ The mayor of Baltimore needs assistance on how to redevelop her downtown area and meets with this person.
	* Secretary of Agriculture
		+ This person is in charge of overseeing subsidies given to framers for growing certain crops.
	* Secretary of Homeland Security
		+ If there is a threat of terrorism against the United States, this person would be in charge.
	* Secretary of Energy
		+ There is an accident at a nuclear power plant and this person would deal with it first.
	* Secretary of Transportation
		+ This person is in charge of all the highways, rail systems, airports, etc.