**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.