



Knowledge Organiser Pro-Forma (The Presidency

| Subject Specific Vocabulary | Short-hand definitions |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Roles of the President | Head of the Government, Chief legislator Party Leader Head of State Chief Diplomat Commander in Chief |
| Informal Powers | Those powers available to te President that are not outlined in constitution |
| EXOP | Executive Office of the President: White House Office, NSC, OMB, CEA |
| Executive Orders | Presidential instruction to federal agencies rooted in Article 2 ‘ all exec power lies with President |
| Executive Agreements | Presidential instruction to federal agencies on foreign policy |
| Theories of presidential Power | Neustadt (power to persuade), Schlesinger (Imperial) , Wildavsky (imperilled domestic, imperial foreign, Howell (power increased) |
| Imperial/Imperilled Presidency | Imperial – unfettered power, imperilled – limited power |

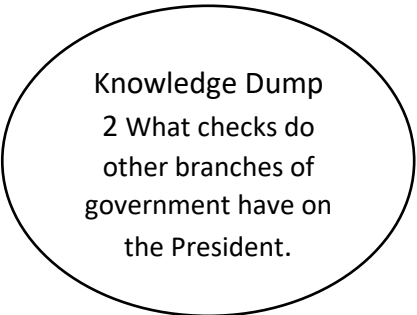
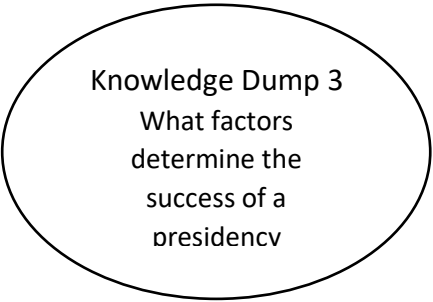
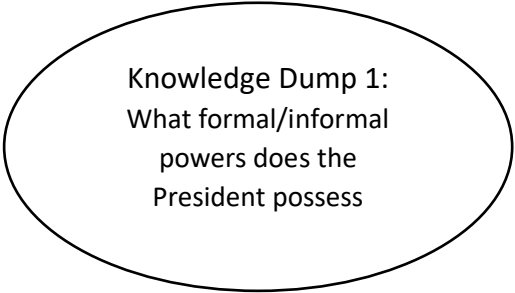
Executive powers: Chief exec of federal govt, prepare annual budget

Legislative powers: Proposes, signs , veto

Appointment powers: Nominate cabinet, all federal judges incl SC

Foreign Affairs: Commander in Chief and initiate military action, Nominate ambassadors, negotiates treaties

Power of the pardon:



What problems does the US President face when appointing cabinet members

- Separation of powers means that no-one can be in two branches of government at the same time
- Many leading policy experts are in Congress
- To accept a post in the government, they have to give up their seats in Congress
- They may be reluctant to do so, especially if they have senior roles in Congress, as they may find it difficult to win their seats back if they leave the government – Jeff Sessions, who failed to win back his seat in the Senate (representing Alabama) after he was sacked by President Trump from his position as Attorney General
- Once people are persuaded to accept nominations, they have to go through a public examination of their personal and professional lives as they go through the Senate confirmation process.
- Even when the President’s party has a majority in the Senate, confirmation is not guaranteed: for example, in 2008 President Obama’s nominee for Health and Human Services, to lead his healthcare reform policy, had to withdraw during the confirmation process although the Democrats had a majority in the Senate
- EGG

What informal powers are at the President’s disposal to assist in implementing the agenda

Cabinet, EXOP, Bargaining, Eos, EAs, Signing statements, mandate, bully pulpit, events

What have been the key policy objectives of presidents since Clinton

Clinton: Economic Growth, Affordable healthcare, Expansion of civil rights

Growth: Balanced budgets 116 consecutive months of growth 30 year low unemployment, But gap between rich and poor widened **Healthcare:** Disaster Hilary Clinton put, no congressional experience, Too radical No clear plan

Civil Rights: Most diverse cabinet in history – Madeline Albright, More black/hispanic federal judges, Don’t ask don’t tell in defence department ended ban on homosexuals serving in military

Bush: Tax cuts, education reform, social security reform, war on terror
Tax Cuts successful, No child left behind implemented but did little and criticiessd re states rights, social security reform disaster, war on terror – success?
Obama: Recovery from crash, healthcare reform, education reform, immigration reform, scale down war on terror
Recovery secured stimulus package but watered down, Obamacare watered down, education reform patchy and challenged, immigration reform forced ito Eos, war on terror not scaled back especially

Trump: Tax cuts, the wall, repeal Obamacare, America first FP
Tax Cuts yes, wall no, Obamacare no, America first criticised even by Republicans for damaging key allies

Biden: Covid 19 recovery, Build back better, Gun reform, Voter security
COVID yes, Buid back better mutilated (Green, Welfare) Gun reform weak, Voter security rejected (For the People Act



Evaluate the view that presidents are unsuccessful in achieving their aims?

Evaluate the view that presidential power is excessively restricted by US Constitution.

Evaluate the view that presidential powers is limited to the power to persuade