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Article II-Executive Department

Section I. President and Vice President

- I) The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows:
- 2) Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.
- 3) The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors and the day on which they shall have their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.
- 4) No person except a natural-born citizen shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.
- from office or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

Section I. President and Vice President

- I) The head of the Executive Branch will be the President of the U.S. The President's term of office will be four years. The Vice President's term is also four years. Both officers will be elected as follows:
- 2) Each state will appoint its electors according to the method decided by the state legislature. Each state will have the same number of electors as the number of its representatives and senators combined. No elector can be a senator, representative or any other officer in a paid job or a position of trust in the U.S. government.
- 3) The U.S. Congress can determine the date when the electors vote. That date must be the same in every state in the United States.
- **4)** Any person elected to be President must be a natural-born citizen of the U.S., at least 35 years old and have lived in the U.S. for 14 years.
- 5) In case of removal from office, death, resignation or inability of the President to carry out his duties, the Vice President will become President. Congress will decide the order of succession if neither the President nor the Vice President can serve. The successor will be President until the President is able to serve again or a new President is elected.



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Executive Department Questions

Answer the following questions in the spaces provided. Your answers must be sentences.

If a person wants to be President or Vice President, what three qualifications must he or she meet?
How is the number of electors figured for each state? How many electors does your state have?
How long is one term in office for a President? How many terms can a President have in office? If a Vice President takes over for a President with only a year left in his or her term how many times can that Vice President be President in his or her own right? (See Amendment 22.)
Any change Congress makes in the President's salary cannot apply to the person who is President when the law is passed. Why do you think the Constitution has this rule?
What are two powers of the President that require the advice and consent of the Senate?
What are three duties of the President?
Does the Constitution describe the duties and powers of the Vice President? If so, tell what those duties and powers are.
a. What process can be used to remove the President from office for committing crimes?
b. What process can be used to remove the President from office if he or she is too disabled to carry out the duties of the President? (See Amendment 25.)

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Presidential and Constitutional Trivia

These questions cover real-life situations related to the Constitution's Executive Department and various amendments about the President. Answer each question below. An explanation of why your answer is correct is required to make your answer complete.

- I. The House Judiciary Committee had drawn up impeachment charges against President Nixon, but he resigned before the House impeached him. President Ford later pardoned Nixon. How could Ford pardon a person in an impeachment case?
- 2. President Truman served all except a few months of President Roosevelt's fourth term and then was elected to another term in his own right. The 22nd Amendment was ratified during Truman's second term. Could Truman have run for President a second time?
- 3. During the Civil War, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation freeing slaves in certain areas of the South. He used his power as commander in chief to make the Proclamation. Why was this the best power for him to use under the circumstances?
- 4. Former Vice President Aaron Burr was tried for treason for a scheme to take over some land belonging to the U.S. and forming his own country. At his trial, one of Burr's coconspirators testified against him. Why was Burr not convicted of the treason charges?
- 5. Madeline Albright, President Clinton's Secretary of State, was born in Czechoslovakia and came to the United States as a child. She is a U.S. citizen, over 35 and experienced in government offices. All of the Cabinet members are in the line of succession to the presidency. Could Mrs. Albright have become President, even if the opportunity arose?
- 6. In 1824 when John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay and William H. Crawford ran for President, there was no candidate with a clear majority of electoral votes after the election. What process was used to choose Adams as President?
- 7. The Constitution continually refers to the President and Vice President as "he." Is there anything in Article II that prevents a woman from being elected to these offices?
- 8. President Woodrow Wilson suffered a severe stroke while on a speaking tour to promote the League of Nations in 1919. He was so ill that his wife virtually ran the Executive Branch during the remainder of Wilson's second term. If the 25th Amendment had been in the Constitution in 1919, would Wilson have completed his second term as President?