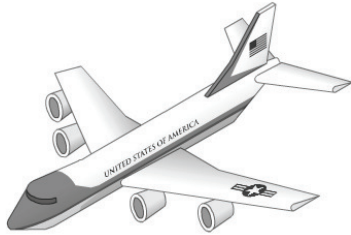
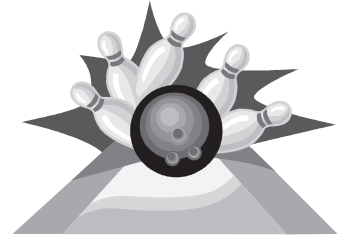


# All In a Day's Work

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Coolest Job in the Country!

Imagine you have been elected President of the United States. What do you think would be the best part of the job? Having your own personal jet? Living in the White House? Having a bowling alley in your house? (Yes, there's a one lane bowling alley in the basement of the White House!)

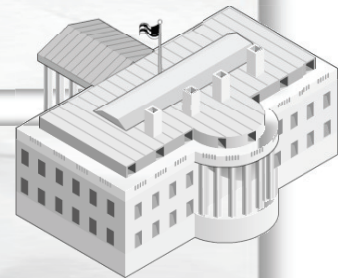


Being president is not just fun and games. You have real responsibilities. Below is a list of things you would do as president of the United States. Which do you think would be the hardest to do? Which do you think would be the easiest?

**Rank the tasks in each list from 1 (hardest) to 3 (easiest). There is no correct answer! Use your own judgment.**

### Task List A

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lead weekly meetings where I ask the leaders of the government offices (called agencies") for their advice on how to handle the country's most difficult problems.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give my yearly "State of the Union" speech on what's happening in the U.S., which is broadcast live on television.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decide whether to approve or reject a bill that I believe would help millions of people but would cost a lot of money.



### Task List B

- \_\_\_\_\_ Follow the Constitution and the law even if I disagree with it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decide whether to send more troops into war knowing that some will die, but it will keep the country safe.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make sure the IRS (the government agency that collects taxes) collects people's taxes correctly, so the government has money to do its job.

### Task List C

- \_\_\_\_\_ Answer difficult questions from reporters at a press conference where I'm asking Congress to do more.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Try to negotiate an agreement with another country that would reduce both countries' nuclear weapons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choose a new Supreme Court justice because someone on the Court is retiring.

# All In a Day's Work

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Play By the Rules

Now you have a sense of what kinds of things the President does. But where does the President get the power to do all those things? Here's a hint: Look in the rule book. Yes, that's right—The Constitution!



### from Article 2 of the United States Constitution

#### Section 1

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. . . .

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:--"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

#### Section 2

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States . . .

#### Section 3

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; . . . he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

### from Article 1, Section 7 of the United States Constitution

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States: If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it . . .

# All In a Day's Work



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**A. I've Got the Power!** One column below has a list of the President's responsibilities. The other column has a list of powers the Constitution gives to the President. Match each responsibility with the correct Constitutional power.



## The President's Responsibilities

- 1) \_\_\_\_ Lead weekly meetings where I ask the leaders of the government offices (called "agencies") for their advice on how to handle the country's most difficult problems.
- 2) \_\_\_\_ Give my yearly "State of the Union" speech on what's happening in the U.S.
- 3) \_\_\_\_ Decide whether to approve or reject a bill that I believe would help millions of people, but costs a lot of money.
- 4) \_\_\_\_ Follow the Constitution and the law even if I disagree with it.
- 5) \_\_\_\_ Decide whether to send more troops into war knowing that some will die, but it will keep the country safe.
- 6) \_\_\_\_ Make sure the IRS (the government agency that collects taxes) collects people's taxes correctly, so the government has money to do its job.
- 7) \_\_\_\_ Hold a press conference where I ask Congress to do more.
- 8) \_\_\_\_ Decide whether to let someone go from jail because there is new evidence the trial was unfair, even though I don't know if the person is guilty of the crime.
- 9) \_\_\_\_ Try to negotiate an agreement with another country that would reduce both countries' nuclear weapons.
- 10) \_\_\_\_ Choose a new Supreme Court justice because someone on the Court is retiring.

## Presidential Powers Listed in the Constitution:

- A. Power to carry out the laws
- B. Must live by the Constitution
- C. Commander in Chief of the military
- D. Ask his advisors, who lead parts of the government, for their opinion on different issues
- E. Can pardon someone for a crime, which gets them out of jail or stops the death penalty
- F. Can make treaties with other countries (with Senate approval)
- G. Can choose new Supreme Court justices (with Senate approval)
- H. Make recommendations to Congress about what bills to work on
- I. Update Congress on how things are going in the country
- J. Sign (approve) or veto (reject) bills from Congress



# All In a Day's Work

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. So Many Laws, So Little Time!** The President is in charge of carrying out thousands of laws! How does he do it? With lots of help! The Executive Branch is made up of many agencies (organizations). Each agency is responsible for carrying out a different kind of law. The sentences below describe 8 government agencies. Use the word and picture bank to help you figure out the official name for each agency. Write the correct words in the blank spaces.



Justice



Education



Treasury



Defense



Health and Human  
Services



Transportation



Agriculture



Homeland  
Security

1. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ works to protect the country against terrorism and make sure the borders are safe.
2. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ makes the money, tries to help the economy, and collects taxes.
3. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ includes all parts of the U.S. military, like the Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force, and its mission is to protect the United States across the world.
4. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ tries to enforce federal laws, prevent crime, and punish those convicted of crimes.
5. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ supports farmers, makes sure our food is safe, and gives recommendations about good nutrition.
6. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ provides health insurance such as Medicare, tries to keep people healthy from things like the flu, and supports finding cures for diseases.
7. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for federal highways, the railroads, and drivers' safety.
8. The Department of \_\_\_\_\_ provides funding to public schools and helps students pay for college.