

President of the United States

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Every four years, the people of the United States vote for the country's leader. The winner of that election becomes the nation's president.

The president may be a man or a woman. He or she will live and work in the White House in Washington, D.C. What does the president do? Here are some examples.

The president is the leader of the American government. The president suggests laws he thinks the country needs. The president may work with the members of the U.S. Congress to get his ideas turned into laws.

The president appoints people to help run the government. These people include judges and leaders of government departments. Often, the

president's choices have to be approved by the U.S. Congress.

The president is commander-in-chief of the country's military. That means the president is responsible for the actions of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.

During any one day, an American president can do many things. The president can speak with advisers, give a speech, or sign a bill into law. The president may meet with leaders of other countries. In the evening, the president sometimes attends special events.

Being president of the United States is a difficult, complicated job.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Who is the leader of the American government?

- A. a member of the U.S. Congress
- B. the president
- C. a judge appointed by the president

2. What does the article describe?

- A. The article describes what the president of the United States does.
- B. The article describes some of the laws that have been suggested by American presidents.
- C. The article describes the special events that the president of the United States sometimes attends in the evening.

3. Read this paragraph from the article.

"The president is the leader of the American government. The president suggests laws he or she thinks the country needs. The president may work with the members of the U.S. Congress to get those ideas turned into laws."

What can you infer from this paragraph about the president's ideas for laws?

- A. The president has more control over the law than the U.S. Congress does.
- B. The president's ideas for laws may not actually become laws.
- C. The president and the U.S. Congress often disagree about what laws there should be.

4. Presidents are not able to run the government on their own.

What evidence from the article supports this statement?

- A. During one day, the president can do many things.
- B. The president appoints judges to help run the government.
- C. The president is commander-in-chief of the American military.

5. What is the main idea of this article?

- A. The American president has a lot to do.
- B. The American president can speak with advisors, give speeches, and sign bills into law.
- C. Every four years, the people of the United States vote for a president.

6. Read this paragraph from the article.

"The president appoints people to help run the government. These people include judges and leaders of government departments. Often, the president's choices have to be approved by the U.S. Congress."

What does the word "appoints" mean here?

- A. fights
- B. chooses
- C. avoids

7. Choose the answer that best completes this sentence.

The president is commander-in-chief of the military, _____ the president is responsible for the military's actions.

- A. but
- B. because
- C. so

8. Where does the president live and work?

9. What are some things an American president can do on any one day? Name at least three.

10. Read the concluding sentence of the article.

"Being president of the United States is a difficult, complicated job."

What evidence from the article supports this conclusion?