

2.5**Checks on the Presidency**

Directions: Complete the worksheet as you read.

1. The president's formal powers enable him to appoint a team to execute the laws and to accomplish his policy agenda. What is this "main" team called? _____
2. Where does the President get the power to appoint this team? _____
3. _____ T/F- The vice president has the second most powerful office in government.
4. The vice president's only "real" job is (according to the constitution) _____
5. What amendment is the most important to the vice president? _____
6. How many cabinet members are there currently? _____
7. What is the purpose of the Department of State? _____

8. What is the purpose of the Joint Chiefs of Staff? _____

9.

About how much is the Defense budget from the overall budget?

10. List the government agencies that match the initials of each department.

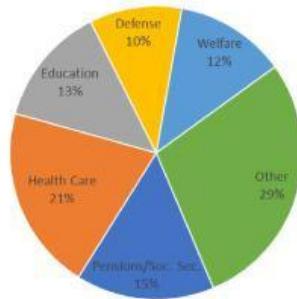
FBI-_____

CIA-_____

FDA-_____

IRS-_____

2020 Total U.S. Government Spending Breakdown



Name _____ Date _____ Pd _____

11. What is the difference between the EOP and White house staff? _____

12. Why is the chief of staff considered the most important person in the white house, explain. _____

13. Explain the benefit of a president who is in a good relationship with the house of representatives. _____

14. Look up the term, **Presidential signing statement**, how does this give an advantage to the president if a law
comes under judicial review. _____

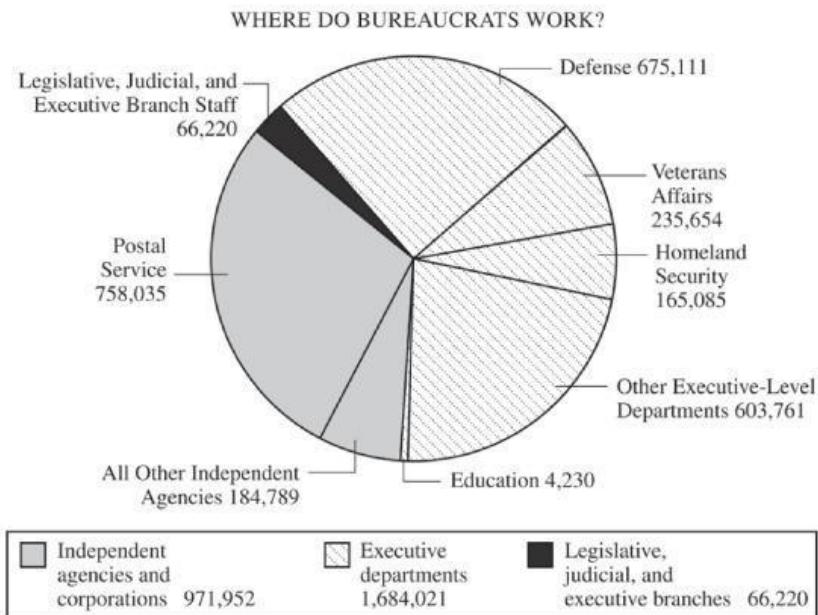
15. List three checks on the president from other branches of government, what is one check of the president by the
people? 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ People Check _____

16. How has the president become more powerful over time? _____

17. Define the following: recess appointments, how does it possibly help the president's agenda? _____

18. What is a senate standoff and when would it happen? _____

19. What is a presidential legacy and how is the best way for a president to achieve one? _____



20. _____ Which of the following accurately describes the information presented in the pie chart?
- The legislative, judicial, and executive branches employ more bureaucrats than does the Department of Veterans Affairs.
 - The number of federal employees working in Washington, D.C., outnumbers those working in the states.
 - Congress has allocated more money to the Department of Homeland Security than to the Department of Defense.
 - The United States Postal Service has the largest number of employees within the federal bureaucracy.
21. _____ Which of the following best explains the difference in the number of bureaucrats employed by the Department of Education and the Department of Homeland Security?
- The Department of Homeland Security was created before the Department of Education.
 - The Department of Education receives its funding from Congress, while the Department of Homeland Security works directly for the president.
 - The Department of Education primarily addresses state issues, whereas the Department of Homeland Security primarily addresses national issues.
 - The Department of Homeland Security hires more employees at the state level than the Department of Education.

22. _____ Which of the following may the president do to limit the Supreme Court's power?

- a. Fire and replace justices
- b. Refuse to enforce a ruling by the Court
- c. Adopt new constitutional amendments
- d. Veto parts of the Court's decisions
- e.

23. _____ A new president has been elected and has a number of positions to fill within the federal bureaucracy. Which of the following is an example of filling a position based on political patronage?

- a. Choosing a secretary of state to appease members from the opposition party
- b. Nominating a high-level campaign fund-raiser to serve as an ambassador to New Zealand
- c. Reappointing the secretary of defense even though he or she was appointed by the previous president, who is a member of the opposite party
- d. Asking the chair of a prestigious university's economics department to serve as chair of the Council of Economic Advisers

24. _____ Appointments to the federal judiciary are often contentious for which of the following reasons?

- a. The House of Representatives can undermine presidential authority by overriding judicial appointments.
- b. Life terms for federal judges mean that presidential appointments will continue to have influence long after the president's term is over.
- c. The president selects nominees based on political orientation, while the Senate focuses on the academic credentials of nominees.
- d. Federal judges are given a platform to legislate from the bench, and the Senate is hesitant about relinquishing power to the judiciary