

Guided Reading Activity

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The Presidency

Lesson 1 *Sources of Presidential Power*

Review Questions

Directions: Read the lesson and complete the outline below. Refer to your text to fill in the blanks.

I. Constitutional Powers

- A. The problems caused by the _____ showed the Founders the need for a strong executive to respond to problems, enforce laws, and carry out the acts of Congress.
- B. The Founders did not want people to take a direct role in decision making and wanted a strong _____ to hold the _____ in check.
- C. Article II of the Constitution says that the executive power is given to a _____, who has the power to execute laws, _____ legislation, command the military, and engage with foreign leaders.
- D. Although the _____ can make treaties with foreign nations and appoint ambassadors and federal judges, these activities must be approved by the _____.

II. Growth of Presidential Power

- A. Over the years, presidents have enlarged their authority through claims of _____ not clearly expressed in the Constitution.
- B. Congress and the courts may accept or limit a president's use of _____, and at times the Supreme Court has ruled those presidential actions _____.
- C. In times of _____ or other crisis, presidents may use these powers to deal with the difficulties.

Guided Reading Activity *cont.*

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- D. Presidents also claim the power of _____, or the right to withhold from Congress or the courts information about communications between the president and his advisers.
- E. Presidents like to claim that, because they won the election, they have a _____ from the people to pursue their ideas and policies.
- F. A significant safeguard against presidential abuse of power is the power of the House and Senate to _____ the president.

III. Presidential Roles

- A. The seven main roles of the president are head of state, chief _____, commander in chief, chief diplomat, _____ leader, economic planner, and party leader.

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How did Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt each increase the power and role of the president?
