

The presidency has been enhanced beyond its expressed constitutional powers.

Explain how the president can implement a policy agenda.

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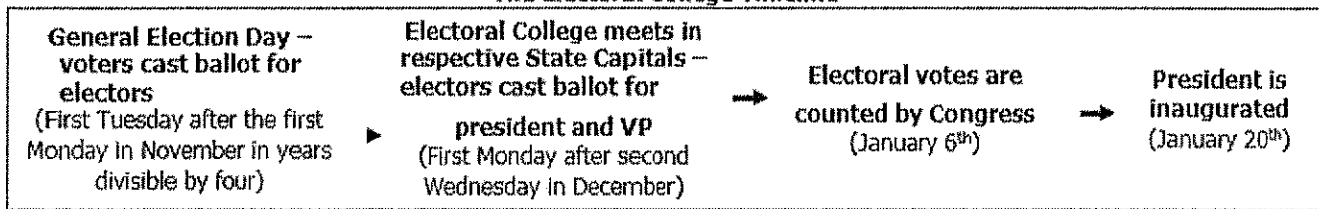
Presidents use powers and functions of the office to accomplish a policy agenda. Discuss the formal and informal powers of the president represented by:	Informal Powers	Formal Powers
Explain how the president's agenda can create tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.		
Senate confirmation is an important check on appointment powers, but the president's longest lasting influence lies in life-tenured judicial appointments.	Explain this statement:	
Discuss how policy initiatives and executive orders promoted by the president often lead to conflict with the congressional agenda.		
Term-of-office and constitutional-power restrictions, including the passage of the 22nd Amendment, demonstrate changing presidential roles.	22nd Amendment	

Discuss how the communication impact of the presidency can be demonstrated through such factors as:

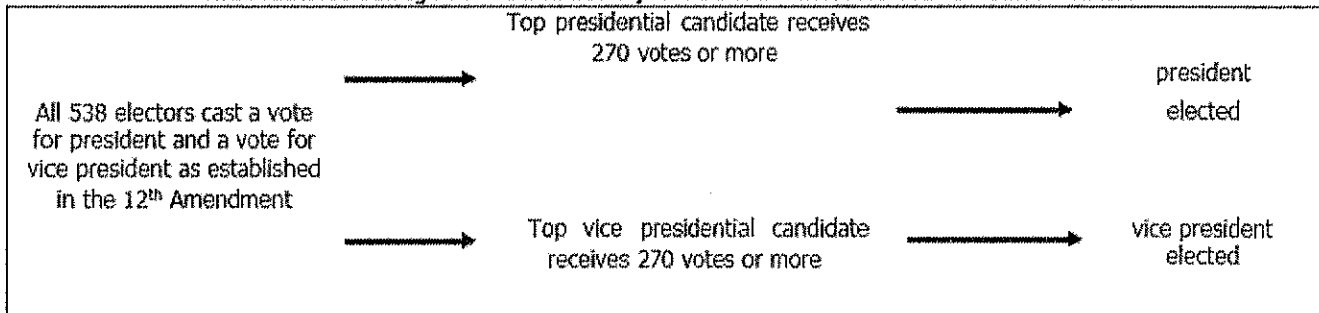
1. **Modern technology, social media, and rapid response to political issues**
2. **Nationally broadcast State of the Union messages and the president's bully pulpit used as tools for agenda setting**

HOW THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ARE ELECTED

The Electoral College Timeline



The Electoral College as established by the Constitution and the 12th Amendment



What happens if the top presidential and vice presidential candidates receive fewer than 270 electoral votes?

The decisions are made in the House and the Senate based on the 12th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution

The federal bureaucracy is a powerful institution implementing federal policies with sometimes questionable accountability.

Explain how the bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of the federal government.

Tasks performed by departments, agencies, commissions, and government corporations are represented by:
Writing and enforcing regulations
Issuing fines
Testifying before Congress
Issue networks and “iron triangles”

Define and explain how political patronage, civil service, and merit system reforms all impact the effectiveness of the bureaucracy by promoting professionalism, specialization, and neutrality.

civil service

merit

Pendleton Act

Explain how the federal bureaucracy uses delegated discretionary authority for rule making and implementation.

Discretionary and rule-making authority to implement policy are given to bureaucratic agencies such as:

- Department of Homeland Security
Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
Department of Education
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Elections Commission (FEC)
- Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

Independent Executive Agency

Independent Regulatory Commission

Government Corporation

Explain how Congress uses its oversight power in its relationship with the executive branch.
Oversight and methods used by Congress to ensure that legislation is implemented as intended are represented by:

Committee hearings

Power of the purse

As a means to curtail the use of presidential power, “congressional oversight” serves as a check of executive authorization and appropriation.

Explain how the president ensures that executive branch agencies and departments carry out their responsibilities in concert with the goals of the administration.

Explain the extent to which governmental branches can hold the bureaucracy accountable given the competing interests of Congress, the president, and the federal courts.