

Practice FRQs

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Period 3

1. (a)
 - Scandals — If a president is caught in some kind of scandal (*i.e.* corruption, sex scandal, etc.), their popularity may take a big dip, as the public sees them as unqualified to rule
 - War — If a country is locked in endless war, the president may be seen as a warmonger, and, therefore, popularity of the president may decline as they seem less competent
- (b)
 - Taxes — A president may become more popular if they decrease the taxes. As the population will always be reluctant to pay more taxes, a campaign to lower taxes may make a president more popular
 - Peace — If the world sees relative peace under a president, the public may see this as a successful presidential achievement, thereby increasing support for said president
2. (a)
 - Specialization — Specialization is a system in which a special committee is created for a certain task (*i.e.* taxes, healthcare, etc.). By creating specialized committees, more qualified individuals may be assigned to evaluate certain propositions, thereby streamlining the process, as more educated individuals may be able to make a decision quicker, limiting debates
 - Party Representation — By setting up representation in committees, parties may be able to influence the outcomes of certain committees. For example, a committee with a majority of Democrats could lead to more Democrat-positive decisions
- (b)
 - Influence — First and foremost, party leaders, due to their positions within the party, may influence the votes within their party, which would cause homogeneity within a party
 - Logrolling — Second, party leaders may influence the decisions of others by exchanging political favors
3. (a)
 - Commander in Chief
 - Ability to meet foreign heads of state

- (b)
 - Holds the key to the U.S. Treasury (power of the purse)
 - May ratify treaties or foreign agreements
 - (c)
 - Head of the executive
 - Media access
 - (d)
 - As head of the executive branch, the president is regarded as the foremost representative of the United States, which makes him more accepted by foreign heads of state
 - As a single person, the president has easy access to platform through which he can stir Congress into action
4. (a)
 - Veto — The power to veto, as a check on the legislative branch, allows the president to influence decisions over controversial bills, as the president holds the final decision
 - Appointment of Judges — As the nominator for judges, the president may nominate judges who may help him carry out his policies, and, with respect to Congress, proclaim a law (even once it passed a veto) unconstitutional
- (b)
 - Party Polarization — If Congress is heavily polarized against the president, as is often the case, they may be able to pass over the president's veto with a super majority, allowing for easier passage of polar laws
 - Mandatory Spending — Because of mandatory spending, the president may not be able to fit some part of their policy into the budget