**EXECUTIVE BRANCH: ALL IN A DAY’S WORK**

**A. I’ve Got the Power!** Match each responsibility of the president and vice president with the correct power or duty found in the Constitution. Write the letter in the correct blank. Each one will be used once.

**Powers & Duties of the President**

A. Power to carry out the laws

B. Must protect and defend the Constitution

C. Commander in Chief of the military

~~D. May ask advisors, who lead parts of the government, for their opinion on different issues~~

E. Pardon someone for a crime, canceling their punishment

F. Make treaties with other countries (with Senate approval)

G. Choose new Supreme Court justices (with Senate approval)

H. Make recommendations to Congress about what laws are needed

I. Update Congress on how things are going in the country

J. Sign (approve) or veto (reject) bills from Congress

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| **President’s Responsibilities** | **Powers & Duties of the President** |
| 1) Lead weekly meetings where I ask the leaders of executive branch departments for advice on how to handle the country’s most difficult problems. | **D** |
| 2) Go to Congress and give my yearly “State of the Union” speech on what’s happening in America. |  |
| 3) Decide whether to approve or reject a bill that Congress has sent me. |  |
| 4) Follow the Constitution and the law even if I disagree with it. |  |
| 5) Decide whether to send more troops into war knowing that some will die, but it will keep the country safe. |  |
| 6) Make sure the Department of Homeland Security properly carries out new airport safety laws that will anger some travelers. |  |
| 7) Hold a press conference where I ask Congress to spend more money on space exploration. |  |
| 8) Decide whether to let someone out of prison based on the prisoner’s good conduct and particular circumstances |  |
| 9) Negotiate an agreement with another country that would lower the taxes each one adds to the sale of items from the other country. |  |
| 10) Choose a new Supreme Court justice to replace one who is retiring. |  |

**Powers & Duties of the Vice President**

K. Elected with the president to hold office in the executive branch

L. Is the president of the Senate

M. Take office as president if the current president dies, resigns, or is unable to do the job

N. Can vote in the Senate if the senators are equally divided on a vote

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| **Vice President’s Responsibilities** | **Powers & Duties of the VP** |
| 11) Take over as president if I’m needed. |  |
| 12) Act as leader of the Senate. |  |
| 13) Cast a tiebreaking vote in the Senate. |  |
| 14) Work with the president to run the executive branch. |  |

**B. So Many Laws, So Little Time!** The executive branch is in charge of carrying out thousands of laws, but the President doesn’t do this alone. Departments inside the executive branch are responsible for carrying out certain kinds of laws. Complete the table by matching each executive department to its function. Use the word/picture bank for help. Each one will be used only once.

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|  | **EXECUTIVE** **DEPARTMENT** | **FUNCTION** |
| 1 | Homeland Security | Works to protect the country against terrorism and make sure the borders are safe. |
| 2 |  | Makes coins and paper money, tries to help the economy, and collects taxes. |
| 3 |  | Keeps the United States safe using the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, and other military resources. |
| 4 |  | Enforces federal laws, prevents crime, and punishes those convicted of federal crimes. |
| 5 |  | Supports farmers, makes sure our food is safe, and gives recommendations about good nutrition. |
| 6 |  | Works to protect the health of all Americans and offers medical and other basic services to people in need. |
| 7 |  | Builds and maintains federal highways and railroads, makes rules for air travel, and promotes transportation safety. |
| 8 |  | Provides funding to public schools and helps students pay for college. |

**C. Analysis.** How do the Vice President and the Cabinet help the President to complete his duties or roles? Give an example of this based on the reading and our discussion today. Write one or two sentences below.

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