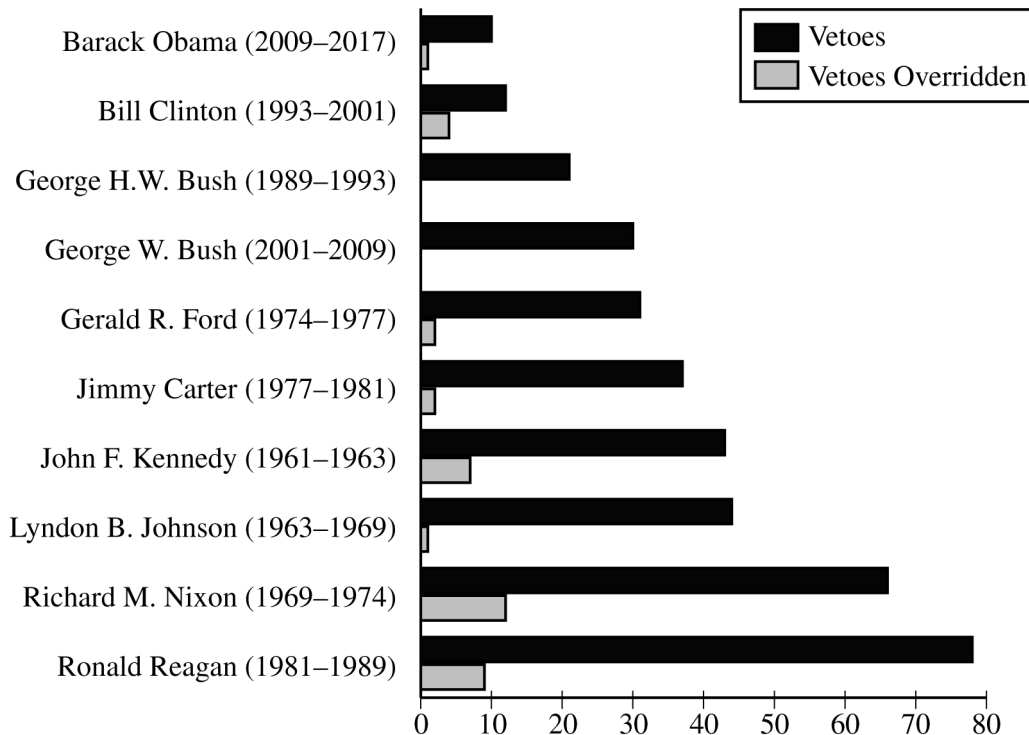


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FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**



Source: United States House of Representatives

3. The United States Constitution gave Congress and the president specific legislative powers. As a result, the interactions between the two are dynamic and complex.
- (a) Describe the constitutional principle of checks and balances.
  - (b) Describe EACH of the following presidential powers in the legislative process:
    - Veto
    - State of the Union address
  - (c) Using the data in the chart, describe the relationship between the number of presidential vetoes and the number of congressional overrides.
  - (d) Explain how Congress can reduce the likelihood of a presidential veto.

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4. In a democracy, what the majority wants should influence public policy. The opinion of the majority is sometimes, but not always, reflected in policy change.
- (a) Explain how interest groups reduce the influence of public opinion on policy.
  - (b) Explain how EACH of the following increases the likelihood of policy change.
    - Newly elected president
    - National crisis
  - (c) Describe the role of EACH of the following institutions in the policy process.
    - The courts
    - The media

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**

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**Question 3**

**5 Points**

**Part (a): 1 point**

One point is earned for describing the constitutional principle of checks and balances.

One branch of government exercises power in order to prevent another branch from becoming too powerful.

**Part (b): 2 points**

One point is earned for describing the veto in the legislative process.

The veto allows the president to refuse to approve a bill passed by Congress.

One point is earned for describing the role of the State of the Union in the legislative process.

The State of the Union is given by the president to Congress to outline the president's legislative agenda/agenda setting, or to influence legislation.

**Part (c): 1 point**

One point is earned for using the data in the chart to describe a relationship between the number of presidential vetoes and the number of congressional overrides.

- Veto overrides are rare compared to presidential vetoes.
- Generally the more presidential vetoes, the more veto overrides.

**Part (d): 1 point**

One point is earned for explaining how Congress can reduce the likelihood of a presidential veto.

- Withdraw the legislation.
- Make concessions to the president.
- Negotiate with the president.
- Rally the public to influence the president.

A score of zero (0) is assigned to an answer that is off-task or is attempted but earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is assigned to an answer that is blank.