Article 2 – The Executive Branch

Vocabulary

-vested, vest: to place in the possession of, usually powers to an official

-appoint: to name or assign to a position or an office; to designate

-ballot: a slip of paper, or some method on which a voter marks his/her vote

-devolve: to transfer or delegate to another; to pass on

-diminish: to make or cause to seem smaller, less important; to reduce

-compensation: something given or received for services, loss, injury, suffering, etc.

-impeachment: the presentation of charges against a public official in the H of R and trial in the Senate

-concur: to agree

-measures: actions or procedures intended as a means to an end

**1** Section 1 – Election of the President

The executive power of the United States of America shall be vested in a president.

Presidential terms shall be 4 years.

Each state shall appoint electors. The number of which will equal the number of senators and representativesthat represent the state in Congress.

Voting day is always the 1st Tuesday in November. What day is that this year? November 6th, 2012.

The president must be a citizen, 35 years old and a resident for 14 years.

If the president is removed from office, or dies, resigns or is unable to discharge the powers of the office, the vice-president shall assume the duties of the office of the president.

The president’s compensation shall not increase nor diminish during his time in office. He also shall not receive outside compensation from the United States or any state within it. Why is that an important part of his compensation? If the president had incentive to make more money by doing things a certain way, he could be influenced by that money.

Before entering office, the president must swear an oath. Copy that on the lines below:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

**2** Section 2 – Presidential Powers

The president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy.

The president has the power to grant reprieves and pardons except in cases of impeachment.

The president has the power to make treaties as long as 2/3 of the Senate concurs.

The president has the power to appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and justices of the Supreme Court.

**3** Section 3 – Duties

The president shall from time to time give Congress information on the state of the union.

The president shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers.

He shall take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

The chart on page 15 lists 4 messages that the president must deliver:

1. state of the union

2. budget

3. economic report

4. special messages

**4** Section 4 – Impeachment

The president, vice-president and all civil officers shall be removed from office on impeachment for, or conviction of, treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

What notes does the workbook give about impeachment? Copy them on the lines below:

Only executive and judicial officers can be impeached. Members of Congress can be expelled by 2/3 vote of their own chamber.