

## Roles of the President

**Directions:** Read about each role of the president below. Use C-SPAN's video links and other sources to find an original example of the president acting in each role.

<b>Party Leader</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> In this role, the president helps members of his political party get elected or appointed to office. The president campaigns for those members who have supported his policies. At the end of a term the president may campaign for reelection with his party's support.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what political party does the current president belong?</li> <li>2. In what ways can a sitting president work on behalf of his party?</li> <li>3. In what ways can the president's party continue to work on his behalf?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choosing leading party members to serve in the Cabinet.</li> <li>2. Traveling to California to speak at a rally for a party nominee to the U.S. Senate.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <b>Location:</b> <b>How does it Relate?</b></p>

<b>Commander-in-Chief</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> The president is the commander-in-chief of the U.S. armed forces. That means all of the military leaders report to and take orders from the president. The president performs this duty as a civilian, someone who is not in military service.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the benefit of having a civilian who is an elected public official as the commander-in-chief?</li> <li>2. What might be some of the drawbacks?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inspecting a Navy yard.</li> <li>2. Deciding, in wartime, whether to bomb foreign cities.</li> <li>3. Calling out the National Guard to stop a riot.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <b>Location:</b> <b>How does it Relate?</b></p>

<b>Chief Executive</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> The president is the chief executive, empowered to administer the laws and affairs of the nation. While the president does not make the laws, his agencies have the responsibility and authority to carry out the laws.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Which recent executive orders have impacted the state of the nation?</li> <li>2. What article in the Constitution grants the president executive power?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appointing the head of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).</li> <li>2. Holding a Cabinet meeting to discuss government business.</li> <li>3. Reading Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reports on the state of national security.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> <b>Location:</b> <b>How does it Relate?</b></p>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Chief of State</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> The president's role as chief of state is to represent the United States at public events. This is mainly a ceremonial role that allows the president to promote/convey/represent American values and acknowledge others who do the same.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When has a president visited U.S. cities in distress?</li> <li>2. How would a president play the role of chief of state during wartime?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Awarding medals to students receiving academic honors.</li> <li>2. Congratulating astronauts upon their return from space travel.</li> <li>3. Greeting visitors to the White House.</li> <li>4. Delivering the State of the Union Address.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <p><b>How does it Relate?</b></p>

<b>Chief Diplomat</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> Being a diplomat involves interacting with leaders from other nations. The president takes the lead in foreign relations by associating with foreign leaders and, along with the help of Congress, develops a foreign policy with other nations.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Which foreign leaders has the president recently hosted at the White House? Which nations has the president recently visited? What have been the motivating reasons for these visits?</li> <li>2. Which countries have been traditional allies of the United States? Do these friendly relationships remain strong today?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Traveling to London to meet with the British prime minister.</li> <li>2. Working with leaders in the Middle East in an effort to create a peace plan for the region.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <p><b>How does it Relate?</b></p>

<b>Chief Legislator</b>	
<p><b>Role:</b> Though the president cannot make laws, he can voice his own ideas and opinions to Congress while they draft legislation. He does this through speeches promoting his agenda and by meeting with Congress to discuss policies.</p>	<p><b>Guiding Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Name one controversial piece of legislation that the president has pushed through Congress.</li> <li>2. How has the president pushed his plan for healthcare?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples in this role</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signing or vetoing a bill passed by Congress.</li> <li>2. Working to get enough House or Senate votes for a bill to be passed through each respective house.</li> <li>3. Making a speech in Congress.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Find a Clip!</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <p><b>How does it Relate?</b></p>