

Name _____

The Executive Branch Unveiled: Power and Leadership

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The system of checks and balances is crucial in the United States government to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful and to ensure accountability. For example, the President can veto bills passed by Congress, but Congress can override the veto with a two-thirds majority vote. This demonstrates how the legislative branch can check the executive branch's powers.
2. Responses may vary, but an example could be discussing a President's decision to order military action, such as the 2011 operation that led to the death of Osama bin Laden, which had significant implications for national security and foreign relations.
3. Responses will vary, but students may choose issues such as climate change, healthcare, or education. They should outline their proposed actions, policies, and goals for addressing the chosen issue.
4. The executive branch's leadership ensures that the government functions efficiently and effectively. The President's role in decision-making, diplomacy, and managing government agencies contributes to the stability and success of the country. For instance, the President's ability to respond to emergencies, such as natural disasters, helps maintain order and protect citizens.

