C:\Users\Kelly\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\91YA98F6\MC900092671[1].wmf8th Grade American History

Robinson

Presidential Journal

Congratulations! You are now the president of the United States!

Directions: Over the next three evenings, pretend you are the president of the United States. At the end of each day, write a reflective journal (typed or on loose-leaf paper) of what you have been doing or accomplishing during your time in office. Your journal should give specific daily activities that you have experienced in your job over the past few days, but you may also write about and refer to other events and decisions that have taken place during your entire time as leader of the executive branch. (You might mention how long you have been in office.) Approximate length: 3 pages (one page per day)

THE SPECIFICS:

* Your journal will be written in **FIRST PERSON**. You are the president! Date each day of your writing (Remember, this is a 3 day journal.)
* **Article II, Section 2: DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT** - Incorporate at least 7 duties you have in your job as the president of the United States. (Suggestion: Consider using the TRUE statements from our Presidential Powers handout for ideas.) You should use these presidential powers as a way of sharing your thorough knowledge of the duties and powers of the president as head of the executive branch of our government. For example, you might write about passing or vetoing legislation, visiting a foreign country, nominating a Supreme Court justice, etc.
* Demonstrate knowledge through your writing about our **CHECKS AND BALANCES** system of government with at least one specific example in your writing about how you (as the president) work with the other two branches of government. You might read ahead on page 126 in our textbook for ideas.
* In your journal, you may include some normal daily activities (met an old friend for lunch, walked the dog, mention of your wife or husband….the First Lady or First Man, etc.). Including a little humor….always good. However, the majority of your writing should be a professional journal…a daily account of what you are doing in your job.

Presidential Journal

Rubric

25 points

The student kept a **three day journal**, written in **first person**. The student followed all writing / typing guidelines as stated in our student syllabus. The student included his / her heading and gave a good overall effort on this assignment. (6 points)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS:

The student’s journal included at least **7 specific president powers / duties** of the executive branch of our U.S. government. The student demonstrated a thorough understanding of the president’s job responsibilities. In addition, the student gave at least one example of our **checks and balances system** of government at work. (12 points)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS:

The student gave a **solid effort** on the writing of this assignment. The writing was clear with use of complete sentences, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. (Come on, you are a highly educated president!) It is apparent that the student **proofread** their work. The student added their own creative touch to their writing. (7 points)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL POINTS OUT OF 25 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LETTER GRADE