

What the President Can't Do



**These are new words to practice.
Say each word 10 times.**

* president

* senator

* elected

* veto

* Congress

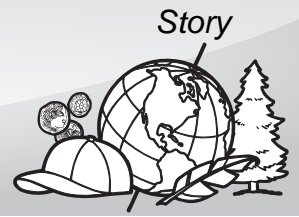
* override

* representative

* two-thirds

Choose one new word to write.

What the President Can't Do



The president is a leader. In the United States, the president is elected. He or she is elected every four years. How is the president elected? People vote. They vote for a president every four years. The president leads the country. But there is one thing he or she can't do. What can't the president do?

The president can't make a new law. A law is a rule. The rules are to keep us safe. Some laws tell us what we can do. Other laws tell us what we can't do. We have laws about cars. We have laws about seatbelts. We have laws about schools. We have laws about food. We have laws about drugs.

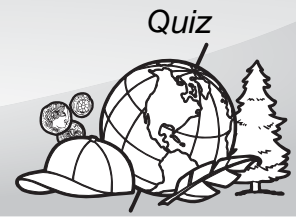
A law starts with an idea. The idea may be new. The idea may be to change an old law. Only people in Congress can make a new law. Congress has two parts. One part is the Senate. One part is the House of Representatives. People in the Senate are called senators. People in the House are called representatives. Senators are elected. Representatives are elected. People vote for them.

First, someone in Congress writes a bill. Second, Congress votes on the bill. The House votes on the bill. The Senate votes on the bill. The bill must pass the Senate. It must pass the House. If it passes, the bill is sent to the president. The president can sign the bill. If the president signs the bill, the bill becomes a law.

The president may veto the bill. If a bill is vetoed, it is not signed. It does not become law unless something happens. Congress must override the veto. To override the veto, Congress must vote again. Two-thirds of both the House and Senate must vote to pass the bill again. If two-thirds vote for the new rule, the



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After reading the story, answer the questions.
Fill in the circle next to the correct answer.

1. What can't the president do?

- (a) be a leader
- (b) veto a bill
- (c) make a new law
- (d) get elected every four years

2. This story is mainly about

- (a) the Senate
- (b) how a law is made
- (c) the House of Representatives
- (d) how Congress can override a veto

3. The Senate is part of

- (a) a bill
- (b) Congress
- (c) the president
- (d) the House of Representatives

4. People do not elect

- (a) bills
- (b) senators
- (c) presidents
- (d) representatives

5. Think about how the word *law* relates to the word *rule*. What words relate in the same way?

law : rule

- (a) veto : bill
- (b) House : senator
- (c) idea : override
- (d) president : leader

Answer Key



Fishing on a Giraffe's Back

- d
- d
- c
- b
- a

Bringing Land to Water

- d
- c
- d
- b
- b

A Humbug Insect

- b
- d
- a
- b
- a

New Zealand Exchange Student

- b
- a
- d
- c
- b

Mike Fink and The Mississippi

- c
- a
- a
- c
- d

Not Enough Trees for a House

- a
- b
- b
- d
- a

Where Was Ride?

- c
- d
- a
- d
- a

One-Room School House

- d
- b
- d
- c
- b

A Law About Spinning

- b
- c
- a
- a
- c

A Muddy Joke

- a
- a
- a
- c
- d

A Spelling Lesson

- d
- b
- c
- a
- c

The Ojibwe and Maple Sugar

- c
- b
- c
- a
- a

Guts Enough Not to Fight Back

- b
- d
- b
- d
- a

Ambulance of the Seas

- c
- a
- b
- a
- c

A Supreme Court Case

- c
- b
- c
- b
- d

A House Without Doors

- b
- c
- c
- a
- a

Pictures that Teach

- d
- d
- c
- b
- c

True Stories About Coins

- c
- a
- d
- d
- b

The Great Lakes

- b
- a
- a
- d
- b

Great Grandpa and the Mine

- d
- c
- d
- c
- a

Sitting Bull

- b
- b
- d
- c
- c

Arrested for Voting

- d
- b
- c
- b
- a

All About Milk

- c
- b
- a
- a
- d

A Symbol of Hope

- b
- d
- a
- a
- d

Saved from Rabies

- a
- b
- d
- c
- c

How Canada Got Its Name

- c
- c
- d
- d
- b

Cattle Drive

- d
- a
- d
- a
- c

What the President Can't Do

- c
- b
- b
- a
- d

"Go for Broke"

- a
- d
- b
- a
- c

Tomato Story

- a
- b
- b
- c
- d

The Oregon Trail

- d
- d
- a
- c
- b

The Man Who Didn't Wear Socks

- b
- c
- d
- d
- a

The Underground Railroad

- d
- c
- d
- b
- a

A Store Like No Other

- a
- c
- b
- d
- d

Following the Crops

- b
- c
- d
- c
- b

Seward's Icebox

- d
- b
- d
- b
- c

Making Congress Fair

- c
- b
- d
- b
- a

Medical Detective

- a
- b
- d
- c
- c

What the Shoes Told

- d
- b
- a
- d
- c

Work Parties

- c
- a
- a
- b
- d

The Rockies

- a
- a
- d
- a
- c

Twelve People in a Box

- c
- d
- c
- b
- a

True Stories About Money

- c
- b
- d
- a
- a

Fighting Fire!

- b
- c
- d
- b
- c