ESSENTIAL QUESTION: What is the purpose, limitations and impact of executive orders in protecting rights, maintaining order, and providing safety for citizens?

PROCEDURES:

Day One - Please read the article titled “How Executive Orders Work”. Then answer the 6 questions that follow in the box labeled “Assignment #1”.

Day Two - Please read each of the 4 excerpts describing famous executive orders. Then respond to the three questions that follow each excerpt.

Day Three - Please read the excerpt of one of President Trump’s executive orders in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. Then respond to the 4 questions that follow in the box labeled “Assignment #3”.

WORK TO BE RETURNED:

Assignment #1 - Responses to 6 questions
Assignment #2 - Responses to 12 questions (3 questions in each of the 4 sections=12)
Assignment #3 - Responses to 4 questions including constructed response

RESOURCES:

- "How Executive Orders Work" reading
- "Famous Executive Orders” reading excerpts
  2) https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/fdr-creates-the-wpa
  3) https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/fdr-signs-executive-order-9066
  4) https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/here-s-full-list-donald-trump-s-executive-orders-n720796

- Trump Executive Order excerpt

TIME ALLOCATED:

Assignment #1 - 15 minutes
Assignment #2 - 20 minutes
Assignment #3 - 25 minutes
An executive order, also known as a proclamation, is an official instruction/rule handed down directly from a president or governor (the executive branch of government) without input from the legislative or judicial branches.

Executive orders have been used by every American president since George Washington to lead the nation through times of war, to respond to natural disasters and economic crises, to encourage or discourage regulation by federal agencies, or to promote civil rights.

Executive orders can also be used by governors to direct state agencies, often in response to emergencies, but also to promote the governor's own regulatory and social policies.

There is no specific mention of executive orders in the U.S. Constitution. Instead, presidents argue that the power to make executive orders is implied in the following statements contained in Article II of the Constitution:

- "The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States"
- "The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States"
- "He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed"

Governors use similar interpretations of their state constitutions to justify the legality of executive orders.

Critics of executive orders argue that they undermine our trusted system of checks and balances, giving too much power to the executive branch. For that reason, executive orders are considered a form of "executive legislation"

Executive orders can be overruled by the courts or nullified by legislators after the fact, but until then they carry the full weight of federal and state law.

Assignment #1-What is an Executive Order?
Directions: After reading the article answer the questions below.

1. What is an executive order?

2. True/False: The legislative and judicial branch provide input to the President before an executive order goes into action.

3. What are the 4 reasons the article states Presidents use executive orders?

4. Other than the President, who else can issue executive orders?

5. What do critics of executive orders argue?

6. What can courts and legislators do about executive orders?

Assignment #2-Famous Executive Orders in U.S. History
Directions: Read each of the excerpts about a specific executive order and answer the 3 questions that follow in each box.
**Emancipation Proclamation (1863):** President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. This executive order freed all slaves living in states not under Union control during the Civil War. Since the southern states had rebelled against the federal government and left the Union, the order had little immediate effect. But it did ensure that any slaves who escaped to the northern states were free.

1. Summarize the executive order described above.

2. Assignment #1 describes that executive orders are normally created to 1) lead a country through war, 2) to respond to natural disasters or economic crises, 3) promote civil rights, or 4) other. What reason do you think President Lincoln created this executive order?

3. In your opinion, do you think this executive order is fair and legal? Explain your answer.

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**Executive Order 7034 (1935):** In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order creating the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The WPA was just one of many Great Depression relief programs created by the Emergency Relief Appropriations Act, which Roosevelt had signed the month before. The WPA put unemployed Americans to work in return for temporary financial assistance. Out of the 10 million jobless men in the United States in 1935, 3 million were helped by WPA jobs alone. In return for monetary aid, WPA workers built highways, schools, hospitals, airports and playgrounds.

1. Summarize the executive order described above.

2. Assignment #1 describes that executive orders are normally created to 1) lead a country through war, 2) to respond to natural disasters or economic crises, 3) promote civil rights, or 4) other. What reason do you think President Roosevelt created this executive order?

3. In your opinion, do you think this executive order is fair and legal? Explain your answer.

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**Executive Order 9066 (1942):** After the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in 1941, Roosevelt came under increasing pressure by military and political advisors to address the nation’s fears of further Japanese attack or sabotage, particularly on the West Coast. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066, initiating a controversial World War II policy with lasting consequences for Japanese Americans. Japanese immigrants and their descendants, regardless of American citizenship status or length of residence, were systematically rounded up and placed in detention centers. Evacuees, as they were sometimes called, could take only as many possessions as they could carry and were housed in crude, cramped quarters.
1. Summarize the executive order described above.

2. Assignment #1 describes that executive orders are normally created to 1) lead a country through war, 2) to respond to natural disasters or economic crises, 3) promote civil rights, or 4) other. What reason do you think President Donald Trump created this executive order?

3. In your opinion, do you think this executive order is fair and legal? Explain your answer.

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Executive Order 13769 (2017): The order suspends the entry of immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries — Syria, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Yemen and Somalia — for 90 days and stops all refugees from entering the country for 120 days. Syrian refugees are banned indefinitely. The order was highly controversial and viewed as discriminatory against Muslims. The order aimed to protect the country from countries possessing potential terrorist and/or terrorist activities.

1. Summarize the executive order described above.

2. Assignment #1 describes that executive orders are normally created to 1) lead a country through war, 2) to respond to natural disasters or economic crises, 3) promote civil rights, or 4) other. What reason do you think President Donald Trump created this executive order?

3. In your opinion, do you think this executive order is fair and legal? Explain your answer.

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Executive Order on Prioritizing and Allocating Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of Covid-19

President Donald Trump/Issued on March 18th, 2020

On March 13, 2020, I declared a national emergency recognizing the threat that the novel (new) coronavirus poses to our national security. In recognizing the public health risk, I noted that on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the outbreak of COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic.

I also noted that while the Federal Government, along with State and local governments, have taken preventive and proactive measures to slow the spread of the virus and to treat those affected, the spread of COVID-19 within our Nation’s communities threatens to strain our Nation’s healthcare system.
To ensure that our healthcare system is able to surge capacity and capability to respond to the spread of COVID-19, it is critical that all health and medical resources needed to respond to the spread of COVID-19 are properly distributed to the Nation’s healthcare system and others that need them most at this time. Accordingly, I find that health and medical resources needed to respond to the spread of COVID-19, include personal protective equipment and ventilators.

Assignment #3- President Trump’s Executive Order in Response to COVID-19
Directions: Use the excerpt from the executive order signed by Donald Trump in response to the coronavirus outbreak to answer the questions below.
1. What significant announcement came on March 11th that likely led to this executive order and action by the federal government?

2. According to this executive order, what are the two types of health and medical resources being carefully collected and distributed?

3. Assignment #1 describes that executive orders are normally created to 1) lead a country through war, 2) to respond to natural disasters or economic crises, 3) promote civil rights, or 4) other. What reason do you think President Trump created this executive order?

4. Constructed Response: Use the knowledge you have gained from completing the first two assignments in this packet to help you respond to the following bullet points in at least 6 sentences:
   ● Describe what an executive order is and the 4 reasons President’s normally create them (Assignment #1)
   ● Summarize President Trump’s executive order in response to the coronavirus outbreak
   ● Do you think President Trump’s executive order is fair, legal, and helpful? Explain your answer.