CRITICAL THINKING/MEDIA LITERACY

Tuning in: Jobs of the President

Now that you've watched the video “Jobs of the President,” read through these questions. Watch the video again, jotting down notes as reminders. Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

1. The video starts by introducing the central idea: that “the president has many duties and responsibilities.” Where are those responsibilities and powers outlined?

2. As commander in chief of the U.S. military, what is a president’s duty during wartime? during peacetime?

3. What kind of tone is set by the music that opens the video? Does the closing music strike the same tone or a different one? Why might that be?

4. What examples are given to illustrate the president’s role as head of foreign policy? If you had to choose one as most important, which would you choose and why?

5. Why do you suppose the video’s editor chose images of different U.S. presidents performing the duties and responsibilities being discussed? How does this reflect the video’s closing statement: “But no matter who’s in the Oval Office, the duties of the president remain the same”?