The U.S. Constitution allows Congress to remove a president if enough lawmakers vote that he or she committed an impeachable offense. Read this diagram that explains the process. Then answer the questions.

**The Impeachment Process**

**An Inquiry Begins**
The House announces that it is starting an impeachment inquiry to investigate the president’s actions. The goal is to determine whether there is evidence that the president committed treason, bribery, or “high crimes and misdemeanors” (usually an abuse of power).

**The Investigation**
Certain groups or committees of lawmakers lead the investigation. Then the House Judiciary Committee usually suggests whether to bring formal charges against the president.

**Not Enough Evidence**
If House representatives don’t find enough evidence of wrongdoing, the inquiry ends. The president stays in power.

**Articles of Impeachment**
If House representatives find sufficient evidence of wrongdoing, they write formal charges called articles of impeachment. All 435 members of the House vote on each article.

**Impeachment Fails**
If none of the articles get more than 50 percent of the votes, the process ends and the president stays in power.

**The President Is Impeached**
If more than half of representatives vote in favor of at least one article, the president is impeached. The president stays in power while the process moves to the Senate.

**The Trial**
The president now faces trial in the Senate. The chief justice of the Supreme Court oversees the trial. Representatives from the House present the case against the president. The president’s personal lawyers defend him or her. Then all 100 members of the Senate vote on whether the president is guilty of the charges.

**Acquittal**
If fewer than two-thirds of senators vote to convict the president of the charges, the process ends and the president stays in power.

**Conviction and Removal From Office**
If at least two-thirds of senators find the president guilty, he or she is removed from office. The vice president becomes president.
The Impeachment Process (continued)

Questions

1. What is the role of the House of Representatives in the impeachment process?

2. What is the role of the Senate in the impeachment process?

3. What are three ways that the president can stay in power after an impeachment inquiry begins?

4. Based on the article “President Impeached,” Congress is currently at what stage of the impeachment process? What does the article say is the most likely outcome for President Donald Trump?