Loan, Chapter 12: Presidency

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| ***Divided Government and the Powers of the Presidency*** | - A divided government in which one party controls the White House and a different party controls one or both houses of Congress. Presidency will not face divided government if his party controls majority in both the House and Senate. However, even in periods of unified government, conflict between the president and Congress still occurs because of separation of powers.  - The Framers had several fears that shaped the powers of the presidency and the electoral college was the answer to some of those fears.  - The Framers settled on a four-year term. | - The Twenty- second Amendment limited the presidency to two terms.  -The president is given the constitutional powers by the Framers. |
| ***The Executive Branch*** | - The president’s closest assistants have offices in the White House who oversee the political and policy interests of the president. They are not confirmed by the Senate and can be hired and fired at the president’s will. There are three ways that presidents can organize their personal staff: pyramid structure, circular structure, ad hoc structure. |  |
| ***Presidential Power in Action*** | - Presidents rely heavily on persuasion. Presidents have three audiences to persuade: fellow politicians and leaders in the nation’s capital; party activists and officials outside of Washington; the general public.  - President try to transform popularity into congressional support for their program and Congress also tends to avoid the political risks of opposing a popular president by passing more of that president’s legislative agenda.  - Another form of presidential power is the ability to prevent other branches of government. |  |
| ***The President’s Program*** | -There are two ways for a president to develop a program. One is to have a policy on almost everything. Another way is to concentrate on three or four major initiatives or themes and leave everything else to subordinates. |  |
| ***Vice Presidents and Presidential Succession*** | - The vice president’s role is not unclear.  - The vice president becomes president when a president dies or is convicted of a bill of impeachment. | 25th Amendment:deals with succession to the Presidency and establishes procedures both for filling a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, as well as responding to Presidential disabilities. |