



VOCABULARY LIST

25TH AMENDMENT

An amendment to the Constitution detailing what should happen in the event that the president cannot do their job (this can happen indefinitely or just for a short while, like if the president is sick).

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Energy generated by renewable resources—such as wind, water, or solar power— as opposed to fossil fuels.

CARBON FOOTPRINT

The amount of carbon dioxide and other carbon compounds emitted due to the consumption of fossil fuels.

CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The direct assistant to the president whose responsibilities may include supervising and structuring the White House staff, managing the flow of information, and advising the president on various issues.

DEFLECT

To cause someone / something to deviate from the intended direction or purpose.

DEMILITARIZED ZONE

An area from which weapons and military forces have been removed.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)

A communist country in the northern half of the Korean Peninsula; established in 1948.

DENUCLEARIZATION

The process of removing nuclear weapons from a place, like a country or region.



VOCABULARY LIST (CONT'D)

DETAIN

To hold someone and prevent them from leaving, like in the case of keeping someone in prison.

FOSSIL FUEL

A fuel such as coal or gas, formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms.

IMMUNITY

In this context, legally letting someone “off the hook” for crimes they have or may have committed in exchange for information that might help solve another crime.

INDUCED COMA

A temporary coma (a deep state of unconsciousness) brought on on purpose by using a controlled dose of a drug; also known as a medically induced coma.

INQUIRY

The act of asking for information; an official investigation.

INVOKE

To put into effect or operation; to implement.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

A department of people who enforce laws, investigate crimes, and make arrests.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

A military discipline that uses information collection and analysis to provide guidance and assist commanders in their decisions.



VOCABULARY LIST (CONT'D)

MILITIA GROUP

In this context, a group that operates illegally outside the oversight of the U.S. government to try to enforce laws or control behavior, typically by using force.

MITIGATE

To make less severe, serious, or painful.

PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION ACT OF 1947

This act signed by President Truman explains the formal order of succession that would take place if the 25th Amendment (see above) were invoked. Currently, the line of succession would be: Vice President, Speaker of the House, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and so on.

PRESS CORPS

A group of news reporters who are located in a particular place or who follow a particular person (e.g., White House press corps).

SANCTIONS

Penalties that one or more countries impose on another self-governing country, state, group, or individual. For example, the U.S. has placed certain economic sanctions on North Korea as one way to pressure the country's leaders to stop their development of nuclear weapons.

UNREST

A state of dissatisfaction, disturbance, and agitation in a group of people, typically involving public demonstrations or disorder.

WATCHLIST

A list that the government maintains of people, groups, or organizations being closely watched because they are associated or suspected of being associated with criminal activity.