

Presidential Signing Statements:

1. What article of the Constitution deals with presidential signing statements?

2. Describe how much power do the presidential signing statements carry, for whom, and for what time period.

President and Term	Signing Statements Issued	Objections to Legislation Within the Signing Statement
Reagan (1981–1989)	250	86 (35%)
George H. W. Bush (1989–1993)	228	107 (47%)
Clinton (1993–2001)	381	70 (18%)
George W. Bush (2001–2009)	161	127 (79%)

3. Which of the following statements is most accurately supported by the data in the table?
 - a. President Clinton greatly reduced the use of presidential signing statements compared with his predecessors.
 - b. While President George W. Bush issued fewer statements than President Clinton, his included more objections than President Clinton's.
 - c. President Clinton's brief access to the power of the line-item veto allowed him to issue fewer signing statements that raised concerns about legislation.
 - d. President George W. Bush was forced to issue more signing statements as a direct result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

4. Which of the following represents a reason that a president might use a signing statement to express displeasure with a bill as opposed to issuing a veto?
 - a. The president may have objections to provisions of a bill but does not want to risk Congress overriding a veto.
 - b. Congress has severely curtailed the power of the president to withhold funds for bills that have been adopted.
 - c. The Supreme Court is hesitant to acknowledge the president's power to veto legislation.
 - d. The president wants to ensure executive agencies do not spend the money appropriated by Congress.