

EL/Civics Lesson Plan

Program Name: Owens ABLE/ESOL @Washington Local

Staff Responsible for Lesson Najwa Badawi

Date(s) Used	January, 2012
Civics Category	III. US History and Gov't Preparation
Civics Objective	2. Gov't and Law: Identify people and events in local, state and federal history
Time Frame to Complete	45 minutes
EFL(s)	Level, 4, 5, 6
Standard(s)	Read With Understanding; Listen Actively
Benchmark(s)	R.1-R.5 ; L.1-L.5 for all 3 levels
Materials	Attached paper/State of the Union; Video at www.whitehouse.gov/state-of-the-union-2011 ; Copy of US constitution - in the USCIS Citizenship Toolkit www.citizenshiptoolkit.gov or at http://kids.britannica.com/elementary/art-82332/The-original-copy-of-the-US-Constitution-is-one-of .
Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Show picture of president giving SUA last year and ask students to tell you who they see and what's going on. 2. Show students a copy of US constitution. Show them the specific article/section about SUA. 3. Hand out paper and ask them to use dictionary to look up meanings. 4. Read and explain. 5. Show the video of the 2011 SUA. 6. Ask them to watch so they can discuss it the next day in class.
Assessment/ Evidence	They answered the questions and reported for further discussion the next day.
Reflection	They loved the background info on SUA. This took away fear of watching pres. give speech. In many countries, this only happens when there is bad news. They watched and found it interesting. Most reported that after the first 10 min, it was difficult to understand the content of the speech, but most still watched it with knowledge that this happens each year.

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The State of the Union Address 2012

By Najwa Badawi

The US Constitution states: **"The President shall from time to time give to Congress information of the State of the Union"**
[The Constitution](#), Article II, Section 3.

As ordered by the Constitution, President Barack Obama is set to give the annual State of the Union speech at 9:00 pm on Tuesday, January 24, 2012. The U.S. Constitution requires the President to report regularly to Congress. The televised address will give the President a chance to share his plans before the nation and its citizens. When President Obama walks into the Capitol Building to deliver his State of the Union speech, millions of American viewers will be watching. It is a unique moment for the President to speak to the public on a variety of topics, including the economy, foreign policy, education, boosting tourism and job creation.

Each year, the president usually spends many hours preparing for the speech. The US Sergeant at Arms, who is responsible for protocol in Congress, announces the presence of the President. Then, the president enters the Congress chamber to a standing ovation.

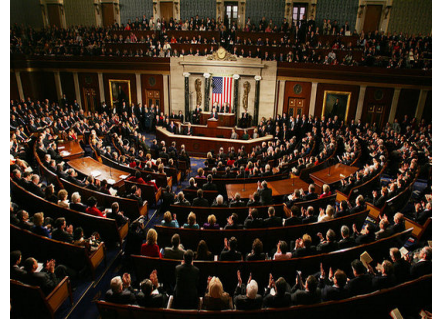
President Barack Obama will stand before the House of Representatives and the Senate members. Behind him, the Senate President (U.S. Vice President) Joe Biden and House Speaker John Boehner will be seated.

Sitting near the front of the chamber will be the Justices of the Supreme Court and members of the Cabinet. Traditionally, one cabinet member does not attend, in order to make sure someone would be available to lead the nation in the event that a catastrophe disables the President, the Vice President, and others. This **designated survivor** is a member of the [United States Cabinet](#) who is appointed to be at a physically distant location when the president and the country's other top leaders (e.g., vice president, secretary of state) are gathered at a single location.

After greeting the attendees, the President hands copies of the speech to the Vice President of the United States and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Once the Congress quiets down after the President's arrival, the President then delivers the speech from the podium.

After he is finished, the President will visit several states and many Americans will react to the speech with questions and comments.

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Match the word to its meaning.

Requires

Platform, a small stage

Address

Selection

Capitol Building

Judges

Delivers

Etiquette

Unique

Standing and clapping hands

Variety

People who advise the President

Protocol

Only one of its kind

Standing ovation

Speech

Justices

Disaster

President's cabinet

Offer

Catastrophe

Must do

Podium

Home of Congress

Submit

Gives a speech

Designated

selected

Watch the State of the Union address and write down one question you would like to ask the president.
