

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 1.25.21

[Annie Linskey, “A Look Inside Biden’s Oval Office,” \*Washington Post\*, 1.20.21.](#)

1. How has incoming President Joseph Biden decorated the White House Oval Office?
2. What’s the significance of hanging portraits of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton in view of his desk?
3. What other notable Americans are displayed? Why?
4. Name an item or notable person that outgoing President Trump displayed during his term, but is now gone.
5. What piece of furniture has remained over several administrations?

[Hayes and King, “The Second Trump Trial. What Happens Next?” \*USA Today\*, 1.24.21.](#)

1. What experience does Ron Klain have that will assist him in serving as President Biden’s chief of staff?
2. How important is the chief of staff role? What does the chief of staff do?
3. How does Klain describe the opportunity?
4. Do you believe Klain will make a competent chief of staff? Why or why not?
5. The article opened with the claim that Klain “is already making waves in Washington.” Did the article prove this claim?

[Bryn McCarthy, “Ron Klain . . . Biden’s Chief of Staff,” \*FOX News\*, 1.22.21.](#)

1. In what way(s) is the coming impeachment trial for Donald Trump unprecedented?
2. How does an impeachment trial parallel a criminal trial?
3. What is the Chief Justice’s role in an impeachment, and why might it be different for Justice Roberts?
4. Who are the “impeachment managers,” and what do they do?
5. How many votes are necessary to convict the impeached official? How many to disqualify the official from holding future federal office?
6. How many GOP House members voted to impeach Trump a year ago? This time?
7. What is Sen. Republican Leader Mitch McConnell’s role in this?
8. What are the specific charges in the Articles of Impeachment?