




Branches of Power

Name: _____

The Three Branches Fill in the chart with details.

 <p>Legislative</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>	 <p>Executive</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>	 <p>Judicial</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>
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 Copy one half sheet per student. Two versions are included. A supported ELL version is below.






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Name: _____

The Three Branches Use the word bank to fill in the chart with details.

cabinet	deliberate	introduce bill	propose ideas	review law
Chief Justice	hold hearing	Vice President	Representatives	Senators
vote	hold press conference	President	review bill	Supreme Court Justices

 <p>Legislative</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>	 <p>Executive</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>	 <p>Judicial</p> <p>Who serves in this branch?</p> <p>What do they do?</p>
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Post-Game Activities

1. Who Does What? Mark the branches' column for each statement that is true for that branch. More than one box can be checked for each item.



Legislative



Executive



Judicial

1. Includes the President
2. Includes the Supreme Court
3. Includes Congress
4. Declares laws unconstitutional
5. Vetoes or signs laws
6. Impacts the content of a law
7. Holds hearings about a bill
8. Writes clauses for the bill
9. Takes a vote on the bill
10. Deliberates on what's in the bill

2. Separation is All about "But" Some powers belong to the legislative branch, others to the executive, and yet others to the judicial. Using what you learned in the game, describe how the powers for impacting and shaping laws are divided among the three branches.

1. The legislative branch

BUT

the president can

2. The legislative branch

BUT

the judicial branch can

3. The president can

BUT

the legislative branch can

4. The president can

BUT ONLY

the legislative branch can

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3. Will Your Bill Pass? Read the bill. Choose whether you would add the clauses or not. Explain to a partner or write an explanation for why.

BILL

Everyone needs organized healthcare at some point in their lives. What role does the government need to play?

Clause 1

All routine dental procedures will be covered by the government.

Clause 2

Allow individuals and families to choose how best to support their own health.



Clause 1 Yes _____ No _____

Why?

Clause 2 Yes _____ No _____

Why?

4. Discussion Questions. With a partner discuss each question. Use what you learned from the game and post game activities to help you. Write your answers.

1. How do the three branches check each other's power?

2. What would happen if all the power belonged to one person?

3. If you were going to be a member of a branch of government, which one would you want to be a part of? Why?

4. How is the lawmaking process affected if the president and Congress have different values?



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5. Is This Constitutional? Imagine that you are a Supreme Court Justice. You are evaluating a law about civic engagement. Write if each clause is constitutional or unconstitutional and explain why. Use the amendments below to help you.

BILL

Let's find a way to increase civic engagement opportunities in communities large and small.

Clause 1

Require all residents to host a local soldier in their home to help the military save money.

Clause 2

Encourage schools to teach all students about their rights under the Bill of Rights during social studies.

Clause 3

Allow citizens to work together to shut down newspapers and websites that criticize the government.

Clause 1

Constitutional _____

Unconstitutional _____

Why?

Clause 2

Constitutional _____

Unconstitutional _____

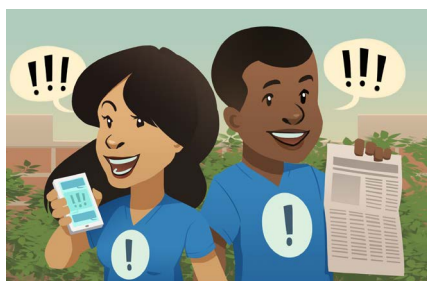
Why?

Clause 3

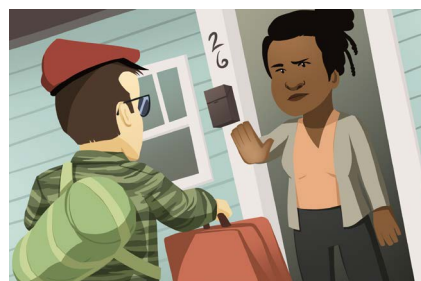
Constitutional _____

Unconstitutional _____

Why?



1st Amendment:
Freedom of Expression



3rd Amendment:
Not House Soldiers

Branches of Power Mini-Quiz

Name: _____

A. Matching. Using the pen tool of your PDF reader, draw a line to match the branch to the person who leads it.

1. Legislative			A. President
2. Executive			B. Speaker of the House
3. Judicial			C. Chief Justice

B. Multiple Choice. Select the best answer for each question.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>4. Each branch of the government has the ability to influence what the other branches can and cannot do. This is called...</p> <p>a. Checks and balances
b. Government approval
c. Executive Agenda Bonus</p> | <p>5. How can a bill gain support in Congress?</p> <p>a. Include clauses to gain more votes
b. Hold hearings to learn about the issue so the bill can be stronger
c. All of the above</p> |
| <p>6. How much support is needed to pass a bill in the Legislature?</p> <p>a. At least 70% in one house
b. More than 50% in both houses
c. More than 50% in the Senate; less than 50% in the House</p> | <p>7. What are the options when a bill to be signed comes before the president?</p> <p>a. The President can sign (approve) or veto it.
b. The President can hold a press conference about it.
c. The President can call for a vote on it.</p> |

C. Fill In the Blank. Complete each sentence using the word bank below. One word will not be used.

the Constitution
deliberate
public support
strike
values
veto

8. If a bill achieves $\frac{2}{3}$ majority support in both chambers, Congress can override the President's _____.
9. Supreme Court justices use _____ as their rulebook when judging laws.
10. If a clause is not allowed by the Constitution, the court will _____ the clause from the law.
11. Holding a press conference helps generate _____.

Bonus: List two actions that each branch does.

Legislative	Executive	Judicial
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.

Glossary of Game Terms

approve	(v.) to officially accept (an idea, action, plan, etc.)	lawmaker	(n.) someone who makes laws, legislator
bill	(n.) written description of a new law that is being suggested and that the lawmakers must vote to accept before it becomes law	Legislative branch	(n.) part of government responsible for making laws.
case	(n.) a situation that will be talked about and decided in court	press conference	(n.) an interview given to journalists by a public official in order to give information and answer questions
clause	(n.) a separate part of a legal document	rule / ruling	(n.) a legal decision made by a judge
Constitution	(n.) the document that explains how the US government works.	sign	(v.) to write your name in order to show that you approve or agree with something
checks and balances	a system by which each branch of government has powers that affect and control the other branches so that no branch becomes too powerful	strike (stricken)	(v.) to delete something (ie: this clause is stricken)
deliberate	(v.) to think about or talk about something very carefully in order to make a decision	support	(n.) approval or encouragement
Executive branch	(n.) part of government responsible for making sure laws are carried out and for managing the affairs of the nation	uphold	(v.) to support or defend (something, such as a law)
government	(n.) organization that is in control of a country, state, city, etc.	values	(n.) strongly held beliefs about what is important or acceptable
hearing	(n.) a meeting or session at which evidence and thoughts are presented to a group who will have to decide on what action should be taken	veto	(v.) to reject (a proposed law); to refuse to allow (a bill) to become a law
Judicial branch	(n.) part of government responsible for evaluating laws.	violate	(v.) to disobey a rule; to take away or ignore (something, such as a person's rights) in an unfair or illegal way
law	(n.) a rule made by the government of a country, state, city, etc.	vote	(v.) to make a selection during an election; to make a decision about something (n.) a choice made when participating in an election, meeting, in Congress, etc.



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1. Sort. Put the words into different categories of your choice. When you are done, explain each category to a partner.

- approve / sign
- case
- clause
- deliberate
- executive
- hearing
- legislative
- judicial
- ruling
- strike (a clause)
- veto
- vote

2. Pictures. Choose the best word from the glossary of game terms for each image. Then write a sentence explaining why the picture represents that word.



Word:

Sentence:



Word:

Sentence:



Word:

Sentence:



Word:

Sentence:



Word:

Sentence:



Word:

Sentence:



Vocabulary

Branches of Power

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3. My vocabulary. This organizer will help you remember the vocabulary terms. Fill out the chart with six words of your choice from the glossary. Write a definition and include a drawing. You may use a dictionary.

1.	2.	3.
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Word:
Definition:

Word:
Definition:

Word:
Definition:

4.

5.

6.

Word:
Definition:

Word:
Definition:

Word:
Definition:

