

5-1 – Understanding the Constitution- Pages 144-177

Essential Question: *How does the U.S. Constitution balance the powers of the federal government?*

Main Idea 1:

The framers of the Constitution devised the federal system.

- One of the major _____ faced by the _____ to the Constitutional Convention was what would happen if there was a _____ between a _____ law and a _____ law.
- Federal system _____ powers between _____ and _____ government
- Powers assigned to national government, called _____ powers, include coining _____ and _____ trade
- Powers kept by _____, called _____ powers, include creating local governments and holding elections
- Concurrent powers, including _____ and enforcing _____, are shared by _____ and _____ governments
- “Elastic clause” allows Congress to stretch its _____ powers to deal with _____ issues
- The “_____ clause” in the Constitution _____ the issue regarding the conflict between _____ and _____ law.
 - It upholds the notion that _____ law has the _____ to _____ state law.
- _____ promised to add a _____ to the Constitution.
 - Americans _____ that a strong _____ government might take _____ the _____ that states had granted to _____.
- According to the idea of _____ rule, the greatest number of _____ in a society make _____ for _____.



Separation of Powers

- Divides the _____ of government so that no one _____ can pose a _____ to _____ rights.
- This separation _____ the branches of _____ and keeps any one of them from growing too _____.

Legislative Branch

- Writes _____
- Confirms _____ appointments
- Approves _____
- Grants _____
- Declares _____

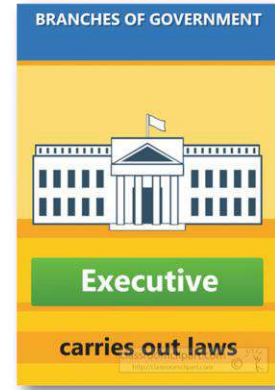


Executive Branch

- Proposes and administers laws
- Commands _____ forces
- Appoints _____
- Conducts foreign _____
- Makes _____

Judicial Branch

- Interprets _____ and other _____
- Reviews lower-court _____



Main Idea 2:

The legislative branch makes the nation's laws.

- _____ is the _____ branch, which makes the nation's _____.
- Article I of the Constitution divides legislative branch, or _____, into House of Representatives and _____
- House of Representatives has _____ members; number for each state determined by _____; each member represents a particular _____ within her or his _____
- Senate has _____ members for each _____; _____ represent state as a _____
- The Constitution insists on _____ state representatives into a _____, or two-part, _____ to allow each side to keep the _____ of the other side in _____.
- Leader of House of Representatives—Speaker of the House—elected by _____ members from the _____ party
- U.S. vice president also serves as _____ of the _____
- As president of the _____, he casts a vote _____ in case of a _____.

Legislative Requirements

House of Representatives

- Members must be _____ years old
- Live in the _____ where elected
- Have been a U.S. _____ for _____ years

Senate

- Members must be _____ years old
- Live in the _____ represented
- Have been a U.S. _____ for _____ years



Main Idea 3:

The executive branch enforces the nation's laws.

- Article II of the Constitution lists powers of _____ branch, which _____ laws passed by _____
- Head of the executive branch is the _____
- President and vice president elected every _____ years
- Vice president becomes _____ if the president _____, resigns, or is _____ from office
- House of Representatives can _____, or vote to charge president with serious _____;
 - “Treason, _____, or other high _____ and Misdemeanors” are grounds for _____ the _____, Vice President, and all _____ officers of the United States.
 - Senate tries _____ cases;
 - Congress can _____ president from office if found _____

Some Presidential Powers

Veto

- President can _____, or cancel, laws that Congress has _____
- The president _____ the _____ of the _____ branch by _____ a law.
- Congress can _____ veto with a _____ - _____ majority vote



Executive Orders

- President can issue executive orders, commands that have the _____ of _____
- These orders carry out _____ affecting the _____, treaties, and statutes.

Pardons

- President may grant _____, or freedom from _____
- Granted to persons convicted of _____ crimes or facing _____ charges

Other Executive Duties

- The president commands the _____ forces; while only Congress can declare _____, the president can call on U.S. troops in _____.
- The executive branch conducts _____ relations and creates _____.
- Executive departments do most of the work of the _____ branch; the president appoints _____ heads, called secretaries, who make up the _____.

Main Idea 4:

The judicial branch determines whether or not laws are constitutional.

- Judicial branch—system of _____ courts headed by U.S. _____ Court
- Main _____ of the Judicial Branch is to _____ the _____
- Article III of the _____ outlines courts' _____
- Federal courts can _____ down a _____ or _____ law if the court finds law _____
- Federal court _____ are appointed by the _____ for _____.
- The lower _____ courts are divided into 94 _____.
- The Courts of _____ review cases from the _____ courts.

The Supreme Court

- Hears appeals of decisions by the Court of _____
- Cases usually involve important _____ or _____ - _____ issues.
- Has _____ justices, led by a _____ justice
- Recent justices include _____, first African American justice, appointed in 1967; _____, first female justice, appointed in _____

