

Branches Of Government Worksheet

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Part 1: Building a Foundation

Which branch of government is primarily responsible for making laws?

Hint: Think about which branch has the power to create legislation.

- A) Executive
- B) Legislative
- C) Judicial
- D) State

Which of the following are components of the Executive Branch?

Hint: Consider the key figures and groups that make up the Executive Branch.

- A) The President
- B) The Supreme Court
- C) The Cabinet
- D) Congress

Describe the main function of the Judicial Branch in one or two sentences.

Hint: Think about the role of courts and judges.

List the two houses that make up the U.S. Congress.

Hint: Consider the structure of the legislative body.

1. House of Representatives

What is the primary role of the Legislative Branch?

Hint: Think about the main function of this branch.

- A) Enforcing laws
- B) Interpreting laws
- C) Making laws
- D) Reviewing laws

Part 2: Understanding and Interpretation

How does the Executive Branch check the power of the Legislative Branch?

Hint: Consider the actions the President can take regarding legislation.

- A) By declaring laws unconstitutional
- B) By veto-ing legislation
- C) By approving budgets
- D) By impeaching members

Which of the following are responsibilities of the President?

Hint: Think about the roles and duties assigned to the President.

- A) Command-ing the military
- B) Proposing legislation
- C) Declaring war
- D) Conduct-ing foreign policy

Explain how the system of checks and balances works in the U.S. government in a few sentences.

Hint: Consider how each branch interacts with the others.

Part 3: Application and Analysis

If Congress passes a law that the President disagrees with, what action can the President take?

Hint: Think about the options available to the President regarding legislation.

- A) Declare it unconstitutional
- B) Veto the law
- C) Amend the law
- D) Ignore the law

In which scenarios can the Judicial Branch exercise its power?

Hint: Consider the functions of the Judicial Branch.

- A) Reviewing executive orders
- B) Declaring a law unconstitutional
- C) Approving treaties
- D) Settling disputes between states

Describe a real-world example where the Judicial Branch has checked the power of another branch.

Hint: Think about significant court cases or decisions.

Part 4: Evaluation and Creation

Which of the following best illustrates the concept of separation of powers?

Hint: Consider the distinct roles of each branch.

- A) The President vetoes a bill
- B) Congress declares war
- C) The Supreme Court reviews a law
- D) Each branch has distinct powers and responsibilities

Analyze the relationship between federal and state governments. Which statements are true?

Hint: Consider the powers and responsibilities of each level of government.

- A) Both have their own court systems
- B) Only the federal government can declare war
- C) States can create laws that contradict federal laws
- D) Both can collect taxes

Discuss how the checks and balances system can prevent abuse of power within the government.

Hint: Think about the mechanisms in place to limit power.

Which scenario best demonstrates a failure in the system of checks and balances?

Hint: Consider situations where one branch oversteps its authority.

- A) The President signs a bill into law
- B) Congress overrides a presidential veto
- C) The Supreme Court refuses to hear a case
- D) A branch exercises power without accountability

Evaluate the effectiveness of the checks and balances system. Which of the following are potential improvements?

Hint: Consider changes that could enhance the system.

- A) Increase the number of Supreme Court justices
- B) Allow Congress to veto executive orders
- C) Require a supermajority for all legislative decisions
- D) Implement term limits for Supreme Court justices

Propose a new amendment to the Constitution that could enhance the balance of power among the branches. Explain your reasoning.

Hint: Think about what changes could improve governance.