

Three Branch Review

US Government

Objective: Demonstrate that you have proficient-level knowledge of the forms and functions of the three branches of the federal government.

Create a poster (or three separate posters) that show what you have learned about the three branches of the federal government.

Be sure to answer ALL of the following questions within your poster(s):

1. What are the three branches of the federal government?
2. What are the main functions of those three branches?
3. What other duties/responsibilities do those branches have?

Part I

- a. What are the various roles of the Executive?
- b. What role does the cabinet play in US government?
- c. What role does the VP play in the US government?
- d. Who takes on the responsibilities of the president if he dies (five places out)?
- e. What is the difference between a law and an Executive Order?
- f. How has the power of the presidency changed over time?

Part II

- g. What powers does Congress have?
- h. What is the Elastic Clause and how does it impact Congressional power?
- i. What are the two houses of Congress and who can serve in them?
- j. Why does party affiliation matter in Congress?
- k. How do bills become laws?
- l. What role do committees play and what kinds of committees are there?
- m. Who are the current majority and minority leaders in both houses and what are their titles?

Part III

- n. What is judicial review and what court case established this power of the Supreme Court?
- o. How many federal district courts are there and what is their jurisdiction?
- p. What courts have appellate jurisdiction in the federal court system? What does that mean?
- q. What kinds of cases does the Supreme Court hear?

- r. Why are majority opinions so important legally?
- s. Why do the police and courts have to be so careful about following the Constitution during arrest, investigation, and trial of defendants?
- t. In a criminal case, what rights do defendants have?
- u. What is the difference between a grand jury and a petit jury?
- v. When do state and federal courts have concurrent jurisdiction?
- w. What is the difference between a criminal and civil trial?
- x. What is the difference between a felony and a misdemeanor?
- y. How are most criminal court cases settled in order to save time and money?
- z. Why do Supreme Court judges serve for life?

This is not due until November 30th. Start with Part III, however, because you will have a quiz over the judicial branch tomorrow.