

Directions: This diagram shows the basic powers and checks & balances on those powers granted in the US Constitution to each branch of the Federal government. In the spaces provided find the Article, Section, and relevant quote which grants each power (or check on power).

* May reject presidential appointments or treaties Art 2 Sec 2
 "by & with the advice & consent of the Senate, to write treaties, provided 2/3 of Senators present concur"
 * May impeach a president ART. I, Sec 2 "House of Reps shall have sole power of impeachment"
 "Senate shall have sole power to try all impeachments"
 * May override a veto Art 1 Sec 7 "If after such reconsideration two thirds of both House & Senate pass bill again -> becomes law"

Write the laws Art. 1 Sec 1 "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress w/ the consent of the Senate shall appoint Ambassadors, Ministers, Judges"
 Confirms presidential appointees Art 2 Sec 2 "The Pres. shall appoint Ambassadors, Ministers, Judges, provided 2/3 of Senators concur"
 Ratifies treaties Art 2 Sec 2 "By & w/ the consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided 2/3 of Senators concur"
 Appropriates money Art. 1 Sec 7 "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House"

* May propose Constitutional amendments to override judicial decision Art 5 "The Congress, whenever 2/3 of both Houses deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments"
 * May reject presidential judicial appointments Art 1, Sec 2 "If 2/3 of Reps shall have same power of impeachment"
 * May impeach Supreme Court Judges Art 1 Sec 3 "The Senate shall have sole power to try all impeachments"

* May veto a bill Article 1 Sec 7 "If he approves he shall sign it, but if NOT he shall return it with his objections"
 * May appeal to the public to put political pressure on legislators (use the bully pulpit)
Term coined by Teddy Roosevelt

* Vice Pres. votes in Senate in cases of tied votes
 Article 1 - Sec 3 "VP shall be Pres. of Senate but shall have no vote unless they be equally divided"

* May declare legislation unconstitutional
Marbury v. Madison - 1794

EXECUTIVE BRANCH
 (President, VP, Cabinet)

Administers/enforces the laws Art. 1 Sec 1 "The Executive Power shall be vested in a President"
 Appoints Ambassadors, Judges, Cabinet members & other officials Art 1, Sec 2 "He shall appoint Ambassadors, Judges & other officers"
 Negotiates treaties Art 2 Sec 2 "He shall have the power... to make treaties"
 Conducts foreign policy Art 2 Sec 2 "He shall have the power to appoint Ambassadors"
 Proposes laws Art 2 Sec 3 "Recommend such measures as in his judgment shall be necessary"
 Commands armed forces Art 2 Sec 2 "He shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy..."

* Appoints judges Art. 2, Sec 2
"He shall nominate"
Judges of the Supreme Court"

* May declare executive actions unconstitutional
Marbury v. Madison
1794

JUDICIAL BRANCH
 (Supreme Court,)

Interprets laws as constitutional or unconstitutional Art 3 Sec 2
"The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law & equity, arising under this constitution"
 Reviews court decisions Art 3, Sec 2 "The Supr Ct shall have appellate jurisdiction..."

BRANT ACTIONS

= NOT in Constitution