

Name _____

Answer Key

Date _____

Sample Answers

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Research the following elements of the judicial branch to complete the table.



ROLES AND STRUCTURE

What is the role of the judicial branch?

The judicial branch interprets the laws.

What are the three types of federal courts?

There are District Courts, Courts of Appeals, and the Supreme Court.

FEDERAL JUDGES

How does a federal judge get in office?

A federal judge must first be appointed by the president and then confirmed by a majority in the Senate.

How long can someone serve as a federal judge?

Federal judges are appointed for life.

THE SUPREME COURT

What is the Supreme Court?

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States.

How many judges are on the Supreme Court? What are they called?

There are nine judges on the Supreme Court. These judges are called Supreme Court Justices.

What main power does the Supreme Court have? Describe this power.

The Supreme Court has the power of judicial review. It interprets whether any law or executive action violates the constitution. If the court decides that something is unconstitutional, it becomes illegal.

CHECKS AND BALANCES

Give an example of how the Supreme Court can keep the president in check.

The Supreme Court can declare an executive action unconstitutional.

Give an example of how the Supreme Court can keep Congress in check.

The Supreme Court can declare a law unconstitutional.