

Social Studies
Chapter 10, Lesson 4
A Constitutional Democracy
Notes

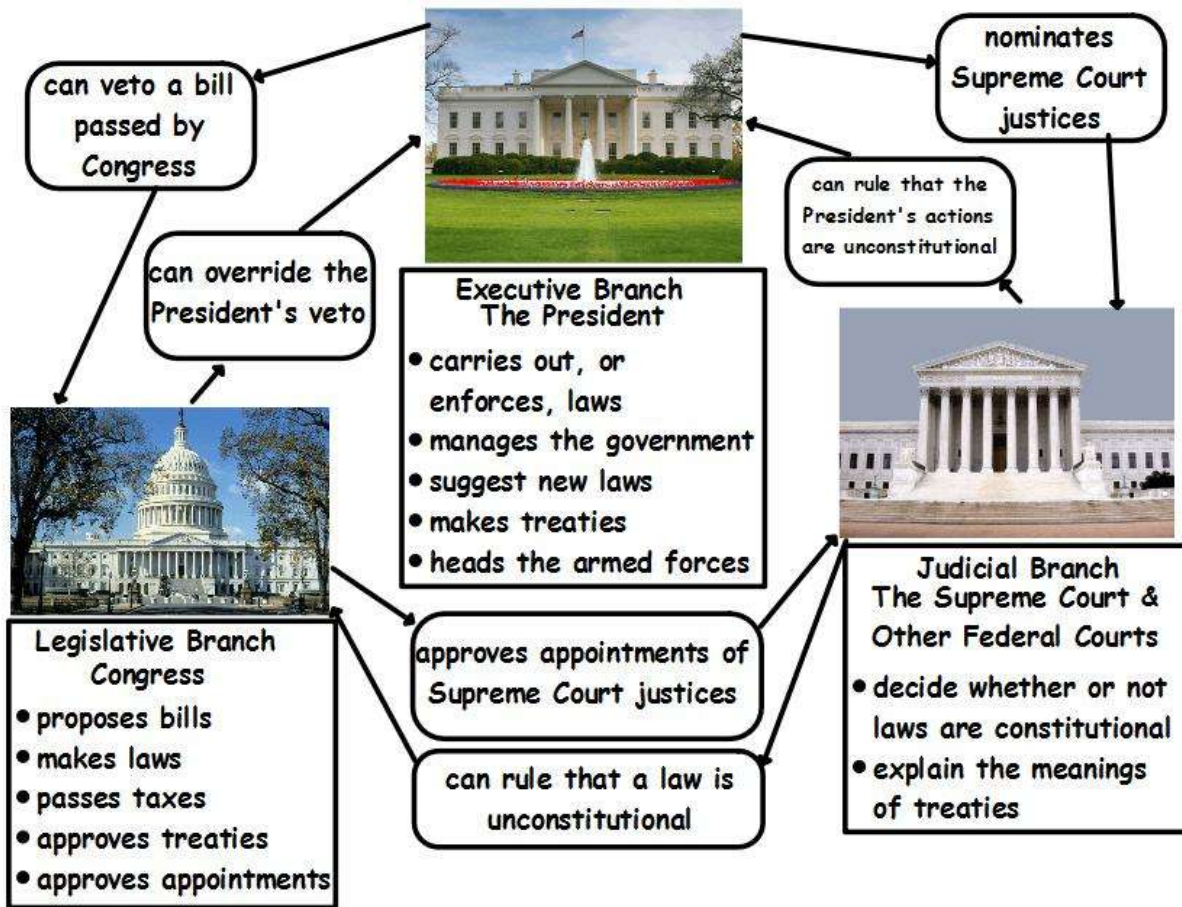
Name: _____ #: _____ Date: _____

❖ Sharing Powers

- Constitution had to _____ the federal government, or give it enough power to govern the nation
- Constitution gives each branch of government certain powers
 - ◆ describes in detail how the federal government's _____ is _____
 - ◆ _____ keeps the federal government from becoming too _____
 - ◆ also protect citizens from the government's power
- three branches of government must often _____ to exercise their powers
 - ◆ if they did not work together, they would not be able to pass _____, make _____, or use _____ to defend the nation
- federal government takes care of issues that affect the entire country
 - ◆ makes sure that our _____ are properly trained and equipped
 - ◆ supports _____
 - ◆ helps protect and clean up the _____
 - ◆ runs programs to help children, people who are ill, and people who are elderly

❖ Checks and Balances

- each branch of government is given different powers by the Constitution in a way that allows each branch to _____ the other
- this system is called _____ (keeps any one branch from becoming too powerful or misusing its authority)
- each branch has a way to check, or _____, the powers of others
- checks and balances were developed in the hope that it would allow the nation to form "a more perfect union"
- _____-alliance that works to reach common goals



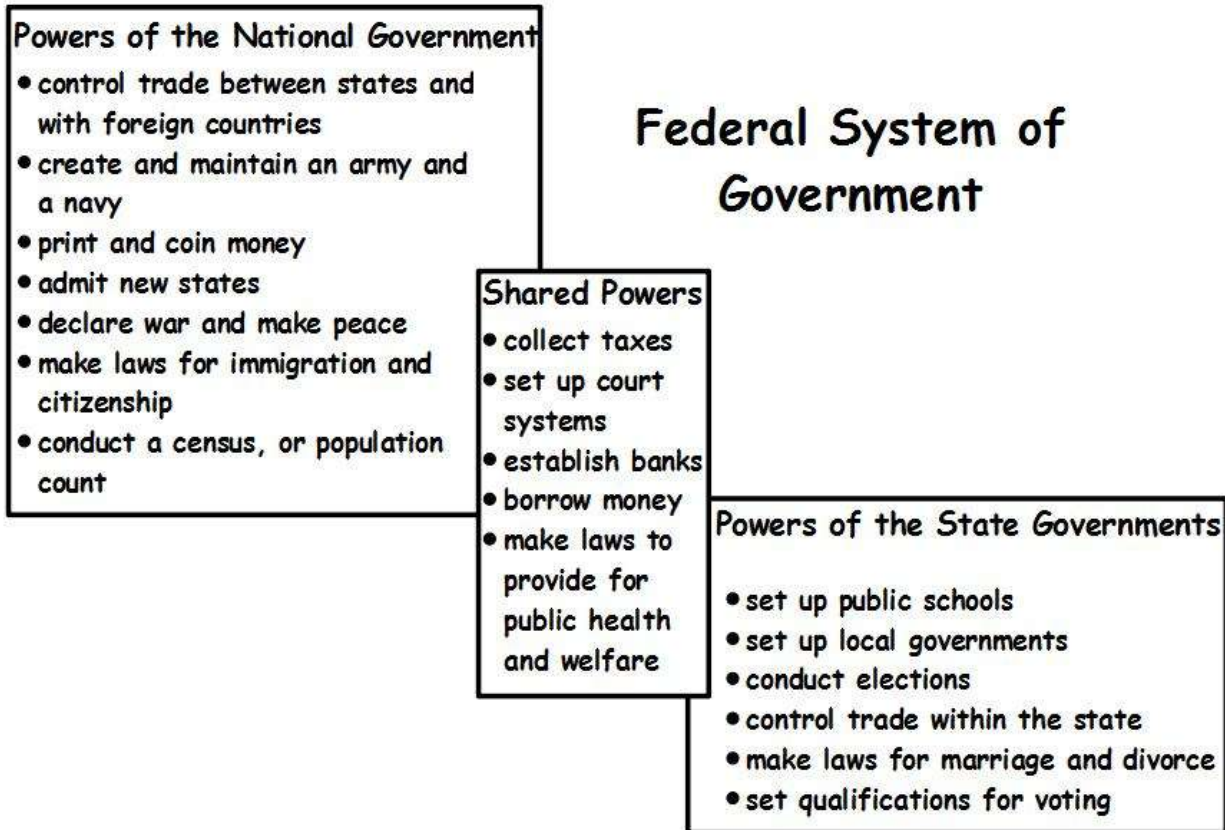
❖ State Powers

- writers of Constitution were careful to preserve the powers of the _____
- _____ --any powers not clearly given to the federal government, or denied to the states, belong to the states or the people
 - ◆ helps keep the federal government from becoming too _____

➤ What State Governments Do

- state governments have many responsibilities

- ◆ build and manage state _____ and state _____
- ◆ oversee public _____ and state colleges and universities
- ◆ provide many services that help their citizens
 - help people who do not have enough money to pay for _____, _____, _____, or other basic needs
- the Constitution keeps the federal government from favoring one state over another
 - ◆ Congress cannot favor one state over another in making _____ or in collecting _____
 - ◆ Congress also cannot _____ goods moving from one state to another
- powers states do not have are listed in the Constitution
 - ◆ states cannot print _____, raise _____, or make _____ with other countries
 - ◆ states cannot set up _____ agreements with other states without approval of Congress



❖ State and Local Governments

- in the United States, there are _____ levels of government: _____, _____, and _____
- _____ governments include county and municipal (city) government
- all three levels of government share certain powers like collecting _____ to pay for government services
- state governments and many local governments have _____, _____, and _____ branches
- _____ in each state elect representatives to their state legislature (makes state laws)

- the _____ is the head of a state's executive branch
- local governments also have an executive called a _____
- legislative branch of a local government is often the _____
- in a county it is often a board of _____

❖ Rights and Responsibilities

- our system of government is based on the basic principles of _____, which include _____, _____, _____, and _____
- government gets its power from the people-- _____
- in a _____, representatives exercise the power given to them by citizens who vote them into offices
- _____ are the sources of the government's authority

➤ Voting

- _____ is a responsibility of a good citizen
 - ◆ in a democracy, people rule and are free to make choices about their lives and their government
 - ◆ voters select _____ and _____
 - ◆ if voters don't like certain laws, they can elect leaders who they think will change the laws
- people can write _____ to encourage their leaders to vote a certain way
 - ◆ important part of living in a democracy
 - ◆ helps leaders keep track of _____ (what people want from the government)

- citizens can run for office or volunteer to do community services
- citizens can work on election campaigns
- voting rights were given to all citizens at first
 - ◆ women were not given _____ (right to vote) until the _____ Amendment adopted in 1920
 - ◆ the _____ Amendment in 1971 lowered the voting age from _____ years old to _____ years old
 - ◆ changes were made to ensure that more people would be represented

❖ Being a Citizen

- another responsibility is to act with _____ (with qualities that add to a healthy democracy)
 - ◆ citizens have to obey _____, serve on _____, and pay _____
 - ◆ males must register for the selective service, or military draft, when they turn _____ years old
 - ◆ citizens can reach common goals and help make the country a better place for all people
- citizens are also responsible for helping _____ the government
 - ◆ several amendments to the Constitution give the people greater power over their leaders
 - ◆ originally state legislatures elected their state senator, but in 1913 the _____ Amendment said that voters to each state can elect their own senators directly

- ◆ _____ are one way to ensure that elected officials regularly change
- ◆ the _____ Amendment adopted in 1951 says that the President cannot serve more than _____ full terms in office

➤ Citizenship

- people _____ in the United States are automatically citizens of the country
- immigrants to the United States can become legal citizens through a process called _____
 - ◆ a person applying for citizenship must be _____ years old
 - ◆ have to have lived in the United States for _____ years or _____ years if they are married to a citizen of the United States
 - ◆ must pass a _____ on United States government and history
 - ◆ must be able to read and write _____
 - ◆ must take an _____ promising allegiance to the United States