

CHECKS AND BALANCES OF THE THREE BRANCHES

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH – MAKES THE LAW

<i>LEGISLATIVE OVER EXECUTIVE</i> <i>-Congress over President-</i>	<i>LEGISLATIVE OVER JUDICIAL</i> <i>-Congress over Supreme Court-</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. refuse to confirm Pres. appointments 2. refuse to ratify treaties 3. declare war 4. impeach and remove the Pres. and V.P. 5. override a Presidential veto 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. propose amendments to overturn Court decisions 2. impeach and remove federal judges 3. refuse to confirm Supreme Court judges

EXECUTIVE BRANCH – ENFORCES THE LAW

<i>EXECUTIVE OVER LEGISLATIVE</i> <i>-President over Congress-</i>	<i>EXECUTIVE OVER JUDICIAL</i> <i>-President over Supreme Court-</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. veto acts of Congress 2. suggest laws or policies 3. send troops 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. appoints federal judges 2. pardon federal offenders 3. can "refuse" to enforce judicial rulings

JUDICIAL BRANCH – INTERPRETS THE LAW

<i>JUDICIAL OVER LEGISLATIVE</i> <i>-Supreme Court over Congress-</i>	<i>JUDICIAL OVER EXECUTIVE</i> <i>-Supreme Court over President-</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. appointed for life 2. declare acts of Congress unconstitutional 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. appointed for life 2. declare executive acts unconstitutional

Listed below are some of the checks and balances of the three branches of government. In the spaces provided write:

- **E** if it is a power possessed by the **executive branch**,
- **L** if it is power possessed by the **legislative branch**,
- **J** if it is a power possessed by the **judicial branch**.

1. ___ Can veto acts of Congress.
2. ___ Can impeach and remove the President and Vice-President.
3. ___ Can declare executive acts unconstitutional.
4. ___ Can propose amendments to overturn Court decisions.
5. ___ Appoints federal judges.
6. ___ Can override a Presidential veto.
7. ___ Appointed for life, so as to be free from executive and legislative control.
8. ___ Can refuse to confirm Presidential appointments.
9. ___ Can suggest laws or policies.
10. ___ Can declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.
11. ___ Can refuse to ratify treaties.
12. ___ Can pardon federal offenders.
13. ___ Can impeach and remove federal judges.
14. ___ Can declare war.