

The Three Branches of US Government: Checks & Balances



Name: _____ Date: _____

Match each branch of government on the left with its constitutional duty and head on the right.

1. Legislative Branch — Congress (Senate & House) → _____
2. Executive Branch — The President & Cabinet → _____
3. Judicial Branch — Supreme Court & Federal Courts → _____

Choices: A. Enforces, signs, or vetoes federal laws and acts as Commander-in-Chief of the military. · B. Interprets the Constitution, evaluates laws, and decides if laws violate individual rights. · C. Drafts and passes federal laws, debates bills, approves budgets, and declares war.

Check your understanding with this civics question.

1. Why did the authors of the US Constitution divide power among three separate branches?
 - A. To prevent any single leader or group from gaining absolute control (checks and balances).
 - B. To make government decisions take as long as possible.
 - C. Because they wanted three Presidents at the same time.
 - D. To eliminate the need for elections.