**THREE BRANCHES: CHECKS & BALANCES**

**Part A: Questions.** As you read through the PDF of pg. 93-97 from your textbook, answer the following questions below. Use the PDF to find your answers; do not use the internet.

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| **QUESTIONS** | **ANSWERS** |
| 1) Why did the Founding Fathers separate power between the three branches? [p. 93] | They separated power between the three branches because: |
| 2) What are checks and balances? [p. 96] |  |
| 3) One powerful check, or limit, on the power of Congress is the ability of the President to **veto** a law. What is a veto? [p. 96] |  |
| 4) Why do you think the President might choose to veto a law? |  |
| 5) What is judicial review? [p. 97] |  |
| 6) Why is the system of checks and balances important to government? What might happen if it were eliminated and each branch of government could act as it wanted without limits? |  |

**Part B: A System of Checks and Balances.** Below is a chart of all the different ways that each branch of government can check, or limit, the power of the other branches. Use p. 95-97 in your textbook to help you to fill out the chart, placing the correct check/limit in the correct place. Each one will be used once.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ratifies treaties | ~~Can impeach (or remove) the president~~ | Declares presidential acts unconstitutional | Can override a veto |
| Vetoes bills | Appoints judges | Suggests laws | Can grant a pardon |
| Can refuse to confirm a judge | Can impeach (or remove) judges | Declares laws unconstitutional | Approves presidential appointments |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LEGISLATIVE limits on the EXECUTIVE** | **EXECUTIVE limits on the LEGISLATIVE** |
| 1) Can impeach (or remove) the president | 5) |
| 2) | 6) |
| 3) |  |
| 4) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LEGISLATIVE limits on the JUDICIAL** | **JUDICIAL limits on the LEGISLATIVE** |
| 7) | 9) |
| 8) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EXECUTIVE limits on the JUDICIAL** | **JUDICIAL limits on the EXECUTIVE** |
| 10) | 12) |
| 11) |  |