**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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **QUESTIONS** | **ANSWERS** |
| 1) Why did the Founding Fathers separate power between the three branches? [p. 93] |  |
| 2) What does the legislative branch do? [p. 94] |  |
| 3) What does the executive branch do? [p. 94] |  |
| 4) What does the judicial branch do? [p. 94] |  |
| 5) What are checks and balances? [p. 96] |  |
| 6) 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] |  |
| 7) What is judicial review? [p. 97] |  |
| 8) Why is the system of checks and balances important to government? |  |

**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.

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LEGISLATIVE checks on the EXECUTIVE** | **EXECUTIVE checks on the LEGISLATIVE** |
| Can impeach the president | Vetoes bills |
| Can override a veto | Suggests laws |
| Ratifies treaties |  |
| Approves presidential appointments |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LEGISLATIVE checks on the JUDICIAL** | **JUDICIAL checks on the LEGISLATIVE** |
| Can impeach judges | Declares laws unconstitutional |
| Can refuse to confirm a judge |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EXECUTIVE checks on the JUDICIAL** | **JUDICIAL checks on the EXECUTIVE** |
| Appoints judges | Declares presidential acts unconstitutional |
| Can grant a pardon |  |