

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

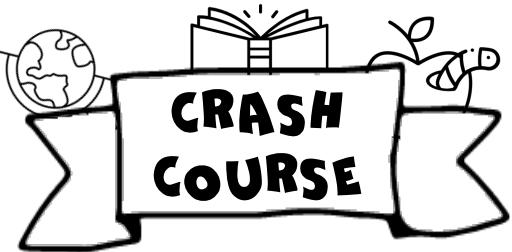
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #22 JUDICIAL DECISIONS

Directions: While watching the video, fill in the blanks.

philosophy	justices	ideology	activism	restraint
history	liberals	conservatives	president	decisions

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_, especially on the Supreme Court, are supposed to be independent, but that doesn't mean they make their decisions in a vacuum.
- 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ has minimal effect on judicial decisions although he's somewhat influential on lower court justices who might one day want to be on the Supreme Court.
- 3. Much more influential on justices is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Party affiliation and political \_\_\_\_\_ are certainly important in the selection process.
- 5. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_ is the idea that the Court should act as an instrument of policy.
- 6. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_, as the name implies, is the idea that judges should pay close attention to the precedent when they make their decisions, and that any changes that they make to the law should be incremental.
- 7. Judicial restraint is often equated with conservatism, which makes sense, as \_\_\_\_\_ generally are against change.
- 8. The conservatives were all appointed by Republican presidents and the \_\_\_\_\_ by Democratic presidents.
- 9. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_ refers to activism and restraint, while political ideology refers to liberalism or conservatism.
- 10. Remember, despite what you may hear, all \_\_\_\_\_ are highly political.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #22 JUDICIAL DECISIONS

Directions: Write one thing you think you know about the topic.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: While watching the video, fill in the blanks.

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- 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ has minimal effect on judicial decisions although he's somewhat influential on lower court justices who might one day want to be on the Supreme Court.
- 3. Much more influential on justices is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Party affiliation and political \_\_\_\_\_ are certainly important in the selection process.
- 5. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_ is the idea that the Court should act as an instrument of policy.
- 6. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_, as the name implies, is the idea that judges should pay close attention to the precedent when they make their decisions, and that any changes that they make to the law should be incremental.
- 7. Judicial restraint is often equated with conservatism, which makes sense, as \_\_\_\_\_ generally are against change.
- 8. The conservatives were all appointed by Republican presidents and the \_\_\_\_\_ by Democratic presidents.
- 9. Judicial \_\_\_\_\_ refers to activism and restraint, while political ideology refers to liberalism or conservatism.
- 10. Remember, despite what you may hear, all \_\_\_\_\_ are highly political.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

# Answer Key

## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #22 JUDICIAL DECISIONS

Directions: While watching the video, fill in the blanks.

philosophy	justices	ideology	activism	restraint
history	liberals	conservatives	president	decisions

- 1. **Justices**, especially on the Supreme Court, are supposed to be independent, but that doesn't mean they make their decisions in a vacuum.
- 2. The **President** has minimal effect on judicial decisions although he's somewhat influential on lower court justices who might one day want to be on the Supreme Court.
- 3. Much more influential on justices is **history**.
- 4. Party affiliation and political **ideology** are certainly important in the selection process.
- 5. Judicial **activism** is the idea that the Court should act as an instrument of policy.
- 6. Judicial **restraint**, as the name implies, is the idea that judges should pay close attention to the precedent when they make their decisions, and that any changes that they make to the law should be incremental.
- 7. Judicial restraint is often equated with conservatism, which makes sense, as **conservatives** generally are against change.
- 8. The conservatives were all appointed by Republican presidents and the **liberals** by Democratic presidents.
- 9. Judicial **philosophy** refers to activism and restraint, while political ideology refers to liberalism or conservatism.
- 10. Remember, despite what you may hear, all **decisions** are highly political.