



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #19 STRUCTURE OF THE COURT SYSTEM

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

trial	standing	executive	constitutional	circuit
supreme	question	mootness	hierarchical	district

- ☐ 1. The American court system is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ courts have original jurisdiction.
- ☐ 3. On the federal side, the trial courts are the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ courts.
- ☐ 4. Federal appeals courts are called \_\_\_\_\_ courts and there are 12 of them distributed regionally throughout the U.S.
- ☐ 5. The \_\_\_\_\_ court has appellate jurisdiction. In fact, it's the final court of appeals.
- ☐ 6. In order for the court to exercise its appellate jurisdiction, the case must raise a federal \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 7. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_ is one reason that the court has refused cases about same sex marriage brought by opposite sex married people.
- ☐ 8. \_\_\_\_\_, which is a real word I promise, means that the case no longer requires a resolution.
- ☐ 9. In some cases the court would rather let the \_\_\_\_\_ or legislative branch handle the issue and not get involved.
- ☐ 10. Finally the Supreme court will usually take a case that has a clear \_\_\_\_\_ question like one involving freedom of speech or religion.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #19 STRUCTURE OF THE COURT SYSTEM

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

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

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- ☐ 1. The American court system is \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ courts have original jurisdiction.
- ☐ 3. On the federal side, the trial courts are the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ courts.
- ☐ 4. Federal appeals courts are called \_\_\_\_\_ courts and there are 12 of them distributed regionally throughout the U.S.
- ☐ 5. The \_\_\_\_\_ court has appellate jurisdiction. In fact, it's the final court of appeals.
- ☐ 6. In order for the court to exercise its appellate jurisdiction, the case must raise a federal \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ 7. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_ is one reason that the court has refused cases about same sex marriage brought by opposite sex married people.
- ☐ 8. \_\_\_\_\_, which is a real word I promise, means that the case no longer requires a resolution.
- ☐ 9. In some cases the court would rather let the \_\_\_\_\_ or legislative branch handle the issue and not get involved.
- ☐ 10. Finally the Supreme court will usually take a case that has a clear \_\_\_\_\_ question like one involving freedom of speech or religion.



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**Answer Key**

## US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS #19 STRUCTURE OF THE COURT SYSTEM

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

trial	standing	executive	constitutional	circuit
supreme	question	mootness	hierarchical	district

- ☐ 1. The American court system is hierarchical.
- ☐ 2. The trial courts have original jurisdiction.
- ☐ 3. On the federal side, the trial courts are the U.S. district courts.
- ☐ 4. Federal appeals courts are called circuit courts and there are 12 of them distributed regionally throughout the U.S.
- ☐ 5. The Supreme court has appellate jurisdiction. In fact, it's the final court of appeals.
- ☐ 6. In order for the court to exercise its appellate jurisdiction, the case must raise a federal question.
- ☐ 7. Lack of standing is one reason that the court has refused cases about same sex marriage brought by opposite sex married people.
- ☐ 8. Mootness, which is a real word I promise, means that the case no longer requires a resolution.
- ☐ 9. In some cases the court would rather let the executive or legislative branch handle the issue and not get involved.
- ☐ 10. Finally the Supreme court will usually take a case that has a clear Constitutional question like one involving freedom of speech or religion.