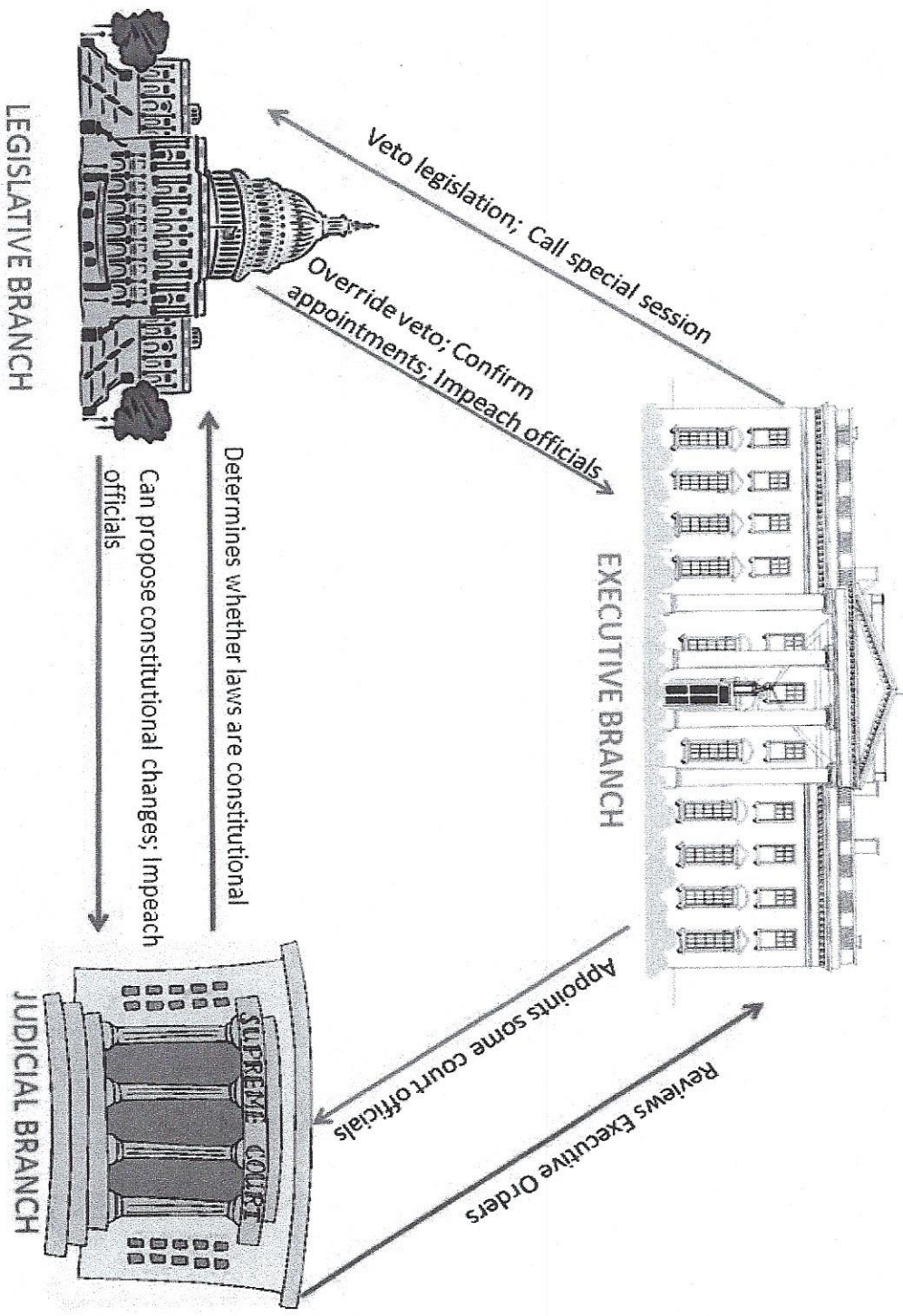
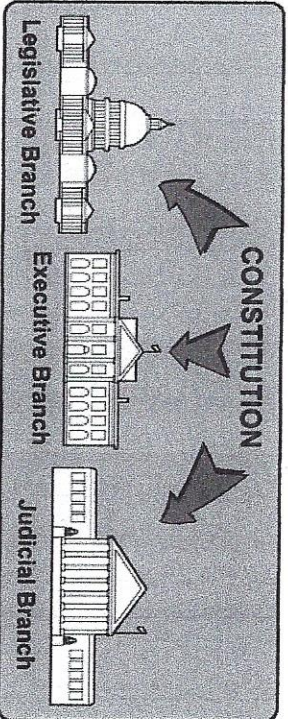
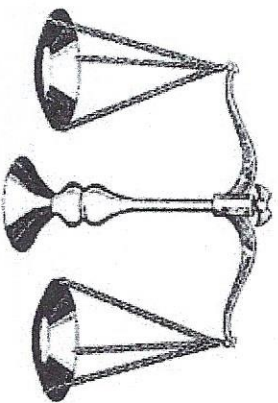


# Checks and Balances





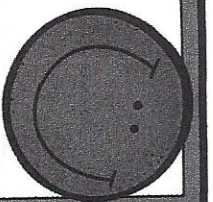
### Checks and Balances – The Balance of Powers

Our government is set up in such a way that no one section of the government can gain more power than the others. If one section of the government takes an action that another section does not agree with, then they have the means to reverse what has been done.

<b>POWERS</b> (in the different branches of government)	<b>HOW IT CAN BE CHECKED</b> (or stopped/reversed)
Congress passes a law.	The President may _____ OR the President may _____ THEN, the Supreme Court may _____ _____ _____
The President vetoes a law passed by Congress.	Congress may _____ _____ _____
The President makes a treaty and signs it with another country.	Any treaty signed by the President must have been _____ _____ _____ The Supreme Court may _____

# The Branches of Government

## "Check" Each Other Out



*Directions:* Read the following scenarios. Then, decide which branch of government has the power to deal with the situation, and which branch of government can "check" the other branch. Make sure you explain why the "check" brings balance!

Scenario	Which branch of government has the power to deal with the situation?	Which branch of government can "check" the other branch? How does this bring balance?
<p>A Supreme Court Justice needs to be appointed.</p>		
<p>A Supreme Court Justice takes a bribe from someone.</p>		

Scenario	Which branch of government has the power to deal with the situation?	Which branch of government can "check" the other branch? How does this bring balance?
<p>President Obama steals money from the U.S. Treasury.</p>		
<p>President Obama tries to declare war on China.</p>		
<p>President Obama wants to make a treaty with Afghanistan.</p>		

Scenario	Which branch of government has the power to deal with the situation?	Which branch of government can 'check' the other branch? How does this bring balance?
A bill is signed requiring all middle school students to share their heads.		
A new Secretary of Labor needs to be appointed.		
A presidential veto is overridden.		
A law is found to be unconstitutional.		

# APPLYING what I learned →

Which branch of government is the strongest?  
Argue and explain your answer using relevant details from today's lesson and your  
knowledge of Social Studies.  
{4-5 sentences; use extra paper if needed}

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