

Reading Notes: Principles of the Constitution

Use p. 244-247 to answer/ take notes on the seven principles of the Constitution.

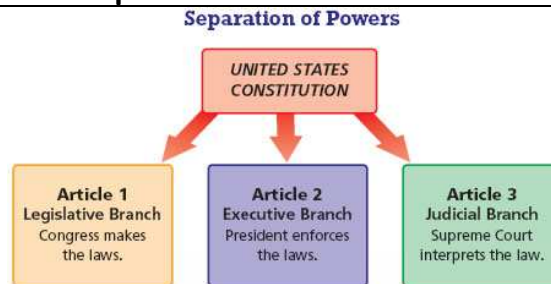
4. Separation of Powers: (Include the Diagram p.246)

How is power divided?

Power is divided into three branches of government. No one branch is given all the power.

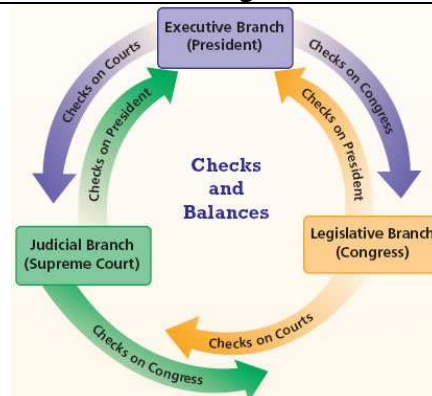
What is the role of each branch?

1. the **legislative** branch **makes** the laws
2. the **executive** branch **enforces** the laws
3. the **judicial** branch **interprets** the laws



5. Checks and Balances: How is power evenly distributed? (diagram p.246)

Each branch of government can exercise checks, or controls, over the other branches. Through the branches of the government are separate, they rely on one another to perform the work of government.



6. Limited Government: How is abuse of power prevented?

Restrictions: Article 1, section 9 lists the powers denied to the congress. Article 1, sec. 10 forbids the states to take certain actions.

Rule of law: Citizens and powerful leaders must obey the law. Individuals or groups can not twist or bypass the law to serve their own interests.

7. Individual Rights: How are personal freedoms protected?

The first ten amendments (the Bill of Rights) shield people from any overly powerful government.