

Branches of Government Cloze Notes

What is the purpose of government?

- Government is derived by the _____ to protect their inalienable rights to _____, _____, and _____.
- The government is responsible for making sure that our rights and our _____ are protected.

Levels of Government

- Local - The governing body of a town or district
- State - The government of a specific state within the United States
- National - Concerned with the affairs that affect the entire nation, such as _____, int'l relations, taxation, and _____.

Constitution

A Constitution:

- Is a basic plan of _____.
- Defines the parts of government, _____, and powers
- Gives _____ to citizens
- Makes government legitimate (legal)
- LIMITS THE POWER OF GOVERNMENT.

U.S. Constitution

- The Highest Law of the Land - _____.

- Federalism – U.S. keeps some power, the states are granted others
- Separates government into _____.
- Bill of Rights – First _____ Amendments
 - Freedom of Speech, Religion, etc.

Separation of Powers: The (3) Branches of Government

Legislative, Executive, Judicial: What are they & what do they do?

See Worksheet for (3) Branches and How A Bill Becomes A Law

Checks and Balances

- Each of the three branches of government has the power to _____ the other two. This keeps any branch from assuming too much _____.
- The _____ of power between the three branches provides for a strong _____ (federal) government that still has systems in place that prevent it from becoming “ _____ ” or tyrannical.
- *“A legislative, an executive, and a judicial power comprehend the whole of what is meant and understood by government. It is by balancing each of these powers against the other two that the efforts of human nature towards tyranny alone can be checked.”*

- John Adams

See Checks and Balances worksheet