

SS.7.C.3.4 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Which is delegated to the national government?	The correct answer should identify a power that is delegated (assigned) to the federal government in Article I of the U.S. Constitution.
A	conducting elections	Incorrect – Conducting elections is a power reserved to the states.
B	establishing courts	Incorrect – Establishing courts is a concurrent power. The U.S. Congress establishes federal courts that are inferior to the U.S. Supreme Court, and states establish their own court systems.
C	coining money	Correct – This is an enumerated power delegated to the national government in Article I, section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
D	taxing citizens	Incorrect – This is a concurrent power because the national, state and local levels of government may each collect taxes.

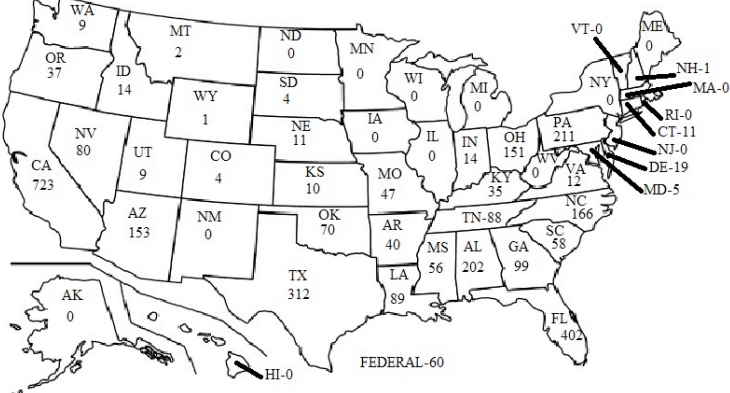


SS.7.C.3.4 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Which statement describes a similarity between the state and the federal governments under the U.S. Constitution?	<p>Compare and contrast the enumerated and delegated powers of the federal government with the reserved powers of the states.</p> <p>The correct answer should identify a concurrent power.</p>
A	Both levels of government allow for the election of judges.	Incorrect – The power to appoint federal judges for life is delegated to the president and U.S. Senate in Article II of the U.S. Constitution.
B	Both levels of government have the power to ratify treaties.	Incorrect – The power to make and ratify treaties is delegated to the president and U.S. Senate in Article II of the U.S. Constitution.
C	Both levels of government allow for the collection of taxes.	Correct – Article I of the U.S. Constitution enumerates the power to tax which is delegated to Congress. The 10 th Amendment also reserves the power to collect taxes to the states. Therefore, the power to collect taxes is a concurrent power.
D	Both levels of government have the power to appoint ambassadors.	Incorrect – The power to appoint ambassadors is delegated to the president and U.S. Senate in Article II of the U.S. Constitution.



SS.7.C.3.4 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

<p>Question</p>	<p>The map below describes the number of people on death row in the United States as of 2012.</p>  <p>Source: Adapted from the Death Penalty Information Center</p>		<p>Read and analyze the map. Note that each state has a different number of prisoners on death row, some states have no prisoners on death row, and the federal government has 60 prisoners on death row.</p> <p>The correct response should identify the type of power (i.e., shared, state, or federal) that the map illustrates.</p>
<p>A</p>	<p>enumerated powers</p>	<p>Incorrect – Enumerated powers are the powers of Congress that are listed in Article I of the U.S. Constitution. The power to execute people is not listed in Article I, and the map indicates that states as well as the federal government have the power to impose the death penalty.</p>	
<p>B</p>	<p>concurrent powers</p>	<p>Correct – Concurrent powers are those that are shared by the states and the federal government. According to the map, the federal government has 60 people on death row and the 50 states have different numbers of people awaiting execution, from 0 to 402. Since both the states and the federal government have people on death row, the power to execute prisoners is a concurrent power.</p>	
<p>C</p>	<p>delegated powers</p>	<p>Incorrect – Delegated powers are the power assigned to the federal government. The map indicates that states also have the power to impose the death penalty which means that the death penalty cannot be delegated to the federal government.</p>	
<p>D</p>	<p>reserved powers</p>	<p>Incorrect – The 10th Amendment reserves any powers to the states that are not delegated to the federal government. Since the chart lists 60 federal prisoners on death row, the authority to execute prisoners cannot be reserved to the states.</p>	

