



Constitutional Principles and Structures: SS.7.CG.3.3
Articles I, II, and III
READING #3

Name: _____

Date: _____



SS.7.CG.3.3 Benchmark Clarification 3: Students will identify the general powers described in Articles I, II and III of the U.S. Constitution.

Articles of the Constitution	General Powers
Article I- Legislative Branch	<p>The legislative branch is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate, also called Congress. Congress makes the laws for the entire nation.</p> <p>In Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution, the powers of Congress are enumerated. These include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The power to collect taxes 2. The power to coin money 3. The power to make laws on immigration 4. The power to make laws on trade 5. The power to create an army and navy 6. The power to impeach and remove officials from office 7. To approve presidential appointments
Article II – Executive Branch	<p>The executive branch is made up of the president and vice president. The president enforces the laws that Congress makes.</p> <p>Article II of the Constitution describes the powers of the president. These powers include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The power to enforce the laws 2. The power to send troops into combat 3. The power to make treaties with leaders of other nations 4. The power to nominate people to serve in the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, and other high government positions 5. The power to grant pardons, except in cases of impeachment
Article III – Judicial Branch	<p>The judicial branch is made up of the United States Supreme Court and all of the lower courts, including federal, state, and local courts.</p> <p>Article III of the Constitution describes the powers of the Supreme Court. These include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The power of original jurisdiction (the power to be the first court to hear a case) for cases that involve: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ambassadors b. Maritime (navy) issues c. Arguments between two or more states d. Problems that involve the United States government 2. All other cases not listed above come to the Court through their appellate jurisdiction. (The Supreme Court hears a case that has been heard by a lower court first.)

Branch of Government	Body of Government	Synonym of Powers
Legislative Branch (Capitol Building)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Congress 2. Houses (Chambers) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. U.S. House of Representatives b. U.S. Senate 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. make laws 2. create laws 3. write laws 4. pass laws
Executive Branch (White House)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President 2. Vice President 3. Cabinet 4. Federal agencies (FBI, CIA, DEA) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. execute laws 2. enforce laws 3. sign laws 4. carry out laws
Judicial Branch (Marble Palace)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supreme Court 2. Federal courts (district and appellate) 3. Federal judges 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. interpret laws 2. review laws 3. explain laws 4. judge laws

appellate jurisdiction - the power to hear appeals of cases that have been tried in lower courts

Congress - the national legislative body of the U.S., consisting of the Senate, or upper house, and the House of Representatives, or lower house

enumerated powers - the powers specifically named and assigned to the federal government or prohibited to be exercised by the states under the U.S. Constitution, also known as delegated powers

executive branch - the branch of government that enforces the laws made by the legislative branch

impeach - to bring formal charges of wrongdoing against a public official (such as the U.S. President)

judicial branch - the branch of government that interprets the laws made by the legislative branch

legislative branch - the branch of government that creates laws

original jurisdiction - the power of a court to be the first to hear a case on a specific topic

pardon - the formal act of forgiving someone or excusing a mistake

president - the head of the executive branch

treaty - an agreement or arrangement between two or more countries

U.S House of Representatives - the lower house of the U.S. Congress

U.S Senate - the upper house of the U.S. Congress

U.S. Supreme Court - the highest court of the United States; it sits at the top of the federal court system