*How do the different branches serve to check on the others? How does each branch balance power with the others? Review some of the powers each branch has, then use the information along with your background knowledge to help you answer the questions.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **EXECUTIVE** | **LEGISLATIVE** | **JUDICIAL** |
| ***President/VP/Cabinet*** | ***U.S. Congress (House/Senate)*** | ***Courts*** |
| * Signs laws
* Vetoes laws
* Grants pardons
* Appoints judges
 | * Makes laws
* Approves presential appointments
* Proposes constitutional amendments
* Impeachments
 | * Decides if laws and executive actions are constitutional
* Can overturn rulings by other judges
 |

How does the legislative branch check the power of the judicial branch?

1. Confirming judicial appointments
2. Impeaching or removing justices
3. Proposing new amendments to the Constitution

How does the judicial branch check the power of the executive branch?

1. Declaring executive actions unconstitutional

How does the judicial branch check the power of the legislative branch?

1. Declaring laws unconstitutional

How does the executive branch check the power of the judicial branch?

1. Appointing judges who share your political viewpoints
2. Enforce the Court’s decisions