

Branches of Government Notetaking Study Guide

Keep in mind the Summary 2 Focus Question as you read about the structure of the U.S. government in your textbook and take notes.

► Use these charts to help you record key facts about the branches of government. Some information has been filled in to get you started.

The Legislative Branch	
The Senate Number of members for each state: <u>two per state</u> Length of term: _____ President of the Senate: _____	House of Representatives Number of members for each state: <u>based on population</u> Current number of members: _____ Representatives elected by: _____ _____ Length of term: _____
Powers of Congress: 1. make <u>nation's laws</u> , 2. collect _____, 3. coin _____, 4. establish <u>post offices</u> , 5. fix standard _____ and _____, 6. declare _____	

The Executive Branch
Duties: Carry out the _____ and run the affairs of _____ Head executive: <u>President</u> Other members: Vice President, Cabinet, _____, _____ Length of President's term: _____, but no more than <u>two terms</u> System by which President is elected: _____

The Judicial Branch
Lower Courts 1. In district courts, _____ is presented during trials, and a _____ or a _____ decides the facts of the case. 2. A party that disagrees with a decision may <u>appeal</u> to a higher court. 3. Appellate court judges review the decisions of district courts to _____. 4. Jurisdiction is _____.
The Supreme Court Court consists of: _____ Justices appointed by: <u>President</u> Appointments must be approved by: _____ Length of Justices' service: _____ Main job: _____ Number of cases heard per year: _____ Most important power: _____ What the court can declare as unconstitutional: _____ _____

Refer to this page to answer the Citizenship Handbook Focus Question on page 118.