



Name _____

THE CHECKS OF POWER

In each of the following situations, decide which branch has the power to "check" the wrong that is being committed and briefly describe the "check" the branch is using in that situation.

1. The President is charged with being responsible for a break-in at the opposing party's headquarters.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

2. Congress and the President approve a law that would prevent certain minorities from receiving tax benefits which others are entitled to receive.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

3. A young man convicted by the courts of being responsible for the deaths of thousands "during a wartime situation" has appealed his prison sentence to the Supreme Court. The court denied the motion to reverse the decision. There is a great deal of public support on his behalf.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

4. A federal judge has been accused of "accepting large donations" from companies that have received some rather favorable rulings from him in the past.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

5. Because one party has an overwhelming majority in both houses, the majority party has decided to pass "mass legislation" to help the party goals.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

6. The President is tired of the hundreds of bills that have crossed his desk for action during the past two years. He decides in a moment of anger that he will "veto all bills regardless of their nature in the future."

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

7. The President makes a treaty with North Korea that allows them to continue the production of nuclear weapons. His decision causes great concern to the American public.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

8. Three days before Congress is scheduled to adjourn, its members decide to flood the President with huge numbers of approved legislation in the hope that he will quickly sign them into law without careful consideration.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

9. The Supreme Court, which has been leaning far too much toward the liberal for the likes of the President, loses two of its members....one by death and the other through retirement.

_____ branch _____ type of check needed

10. There is an associate justice serving on the Supreme Court who is 88 years old. He is seldom able to attend sessions of the court because of illness; and when he is there, he seems to have lost that "razor-sharp" edge that earned him a spot on this high court so many years ago. In fact he is fast becoming senile!

_____ branch _____ type of check needed