

Name _____

Date _____



Three Branches of Government

"Checks and Balances"

LEGISLATIVE:

Yeah. It's the legislative branch. I'm the one that pass the laws. So if you want to make something happen, you've got to go through me.

EXECUTIVE:

It's the executive branch. Who's calling the shots in the oval office?

JUDICIAL: Yeah, yeah, it's the courts. Judicial.

It goes check, check to stay balanced,
Not just one, we bring three talents.
The powers? Got to keep 'em separated,
That's the motto, we made it.

Three branches of government, that's all:
Legislative writes the laws,
Executive executes laws — so official,
The court system is judicial.

LEGISLATIVE:

I'm the legislative branch, I write laws,
Without me, it'd be anarchy of course.
Say my name: I'm called Congress,
Sitting on Capitol Hill, kid that's honest.
Made up of the Senate and the House of Reps,
We write a bill and send it to the President's desk.

We legislate, and we roll deep,
535 members in my clique, see?
Senate? Each state sends two,
100 senators in all, that's how we do.
The House of Representatives is by population,
Cali reps the hardest, no debating.
If my bills get a presidential veto,
I can override that with enough people.
I wrote the budget and I'm passing the laws,
Now I'mma grab the mic and pass it off...

EXECUTIVE:

Oh, hey Congress — sometimes I need to mess with your plans,
I carry out laws, I'm the executive branch,
I'm the president, roll with the VP and Cabinet,
And I'll veto your laws if I'm not having it.
So hail to the Commander in Chief,
All the armed forces need to follow me.
My powers been blossoming since George Washington
Stepped to the office and did awesome things.
I've got a bowling alley in my home,
Where I call in air strikes from invisible drones.
Who appoints the Cabinet and judges too?
The boss in the Oval Office that's who.

JUDICIAL: Check check, I'mma keep it short,
The judicial system, I'm the courts.
My highest court, that's Supreme,
All nine justices know what I mean:
Nominated by the pres, confirmed by the Senate,
No term limits, they serve a life sentence.
Plead your case, it's not unusual,

For me to rule a law unconstitutional.

LEGISLATIVE:

So I write a law.

EXECUTIVE:

Well, I might veto it.

LEGISLATIVE:

And I can override that, you know it.

EXECUTIVE:

Man, I'm executive, the one that carries it out.

JUDICIAL:

It can get challenged in the courts, that's what I'm all about.

I might declare it unconstitutional.

LEGISLATIVE:

I can impeach judges who act unusual,

EXECUTIVE:

I nominate justices in the first place.

LEGISLATIVE:

I can impeach you too if you step out of place.

Three branches of government, that's all:

Legislative writes the laws,

Executive executes laws — so official,

The court system is judicial. (x2)

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