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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.L1 |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 |
| Cognitive Complexity | Low |
| Item | What check does the U.S. Senate have on the president? |
| A | overriding vetoes |
| B | appointing judges |
| C | declaring laws unconstitutional |
| D | refusing to confirm appointments |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.L1 | |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 | |
| Cognitive Complexity | Low | |
| Item | What check does the U.S. Senate have on the president? | |
| A | overriding vetoes | **Incorrect**-Article I, Section 7 provides that Congress as a whole, not the Senate itself, has the power to override presidential vetoes. |
| B | appointing judges | **Incorrect**-The president has the sole power to appoint judges. |
| C | declaring laws unconstitutional | **Incorrect**-The U.S. Supreme Court has the power to declare laws unconstitutional. |
| D | refusing to confirm appointments | ***Correct***-Presidential appointments are subject to Senate confirmation in order to take effect. |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M1 |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate |
| Item | The statement below was written by John Adams in April 1776.  A representation of the people in one assembly being obtained, a question arises, whether all the powers of government, legislative, executive, and judicial, shall be left in this body? I think a people cannot be long free, nor ever happy, whose government is in one assembly.  Source: *Thoughts on Government,* Letter of John Adams  Which basic principle of American government is John Adams describing in this statement? |
| A | separation of powers |
| B | individual rights |
| C | natural laws |
| D | civic virtue |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M1 | |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 | |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate | |
| Item | The statement below was written by John Adams in April 1776.  A representation of the people in one assembly being obtained, a question arises, whether all the powers of government, legislative, executive, and judicial, shall be left in this body? I think a people cannot be long free, nor ever happy, whose government is in one assembly.  Source: *Thoughts on Government,* Letter of John Adams  Which basic principle of American government is John Adams describing in this statement? | |
| A | separation of powers | ***Correct***-Adams is stating that separating powers is one way to ensure that the people be free. |
| B | individual rights | **Incorrect**-Adams is not focusing on individual rights in the statement; Adams is focusing on the powers of government. |
| C | natural laws | **Incorrect**-Adams is not focusing on natural law in the statement; Adams is focusing on the powers of government. Natural law focuses on laws that reflect basic human rights. |
| D | civic virtue | **Incorrect**-Civic virtue is not a basic principle of American government although civic virtue played a role in the formation of American government. |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M2 |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate |
| Item | The table below describes several powers of the U.S. government.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | Senate confirms nominations | President nominates judges | Supreme Court declares laws unconstitutional | | Congress overrides vetoes | President vetoes legislation | Supreme Court hears cases between states |   Which two principles are described in this table? |
| A | separation of powers and checks and balances |
| B | separation of powers and popular sovereignty |
| C | federalism and judicial review |
| D | federalism and republicanism |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M2 | |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 | |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate | |
| Item | The table below describes several powers of the U.S. government.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | Senate confirms nominations | President nominates judges | Supreme Court declares laws unconstitutional | | Congress overrides vetoes | President vetoes legislation | Supreme Court hears cases between states |   Which two principles are described in this table? | |
| A | separation of powers and checks and balances | ***Correct***-The table separates the powers of government among legislative (Senate), executive (president) and judicial (Supreme Court). |
| B | separation of powers and popular sovereignty | **Incorrect**-The tables shows separation of powers but there is no evidence of popular sovereignty. The Supreme Court is appointed while the president is not elected directly by the people. |
| C | federalism and judicial review | **Incorrect**-Federalism involves the division of power across the national, state and local governments. Federalism is not shown in the table. |
| D | federalism and republicanism | **Incorrect**- Federalism involves the division of power across the national, state and local governments. Federalism is not shown in the table. Republicanism focuses on the concept of representation. The Supreme Court is not a representative body of government. |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M3 |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate |
| Item | Which principle does the U.S. Supreme Court apply when it declares an act of Congress unconstitutional? |
| A | separation of powers |
| B | checks and balances |
| C | advice and consent |
| D | executive privilege |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.M3 | |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 | |
| Cognitive Complexity | Moderate | |
| Item | Which principle does the U.S. Supreme Court apply when it declares an act of Congress unconstitutional? | |
| A | separation of powers | **Incorrect**-The principle of separation of powers does not allow one branch to check the actions of one or more branches. |
| B | checks and balances | ***Correct***-The principle of checks and balances allows one branch to challenge, or check, the actions of one or more branches. |
| C | advice and consent | **Incorrect**-Advise and consent is the principle that the U.S. Senate confirm presidential appointments and ratify treaties. |
| D | executive privilege | **Incorrect**-Executive privilege occurs when the president takes action because the president holds that office. |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.H1 |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 |
| Cognitive Complexity | High |
| Item | Which principle supports President Eisenhower’s action to uphold the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision that public schools should be integrated? |
| A | judicial review |
| B | checks and balances |
| C | separation of powers |
| D | constitutional government |

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| Bank Item Number | G.C.1.7.H1 | |
| Benchmark | SS.7.C.1.7 | |
| Cognitive Complexity | High | |
| Item | Which principle supports President Eisenhower’s action to uphold the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision that public schools should be integrated? | |
| A | judicial review | **Incorrect**-The focus of the action is on the president and not on the U.S. Supreme Court, which has the power of judicial review. |
| B | checks and balances | **Incorrect**-The U.S. Supreme Court’s decision is an example of checks and balances although the president’s decision to uphold that decision is not an example of checks and balances. |
| C | separation of powers | **Incorrect**-The example shows separate powers although separation of powers did not play a role in supporting the president’s decision. |
| D | constitutional government | ***Correct***-The president’s decision to uphold the U.S. Supreme Court decision is an example of constitutional government because the president supported the Supreme Court by upholding its decision. |