

### SS.7.C.3.3 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Which branch of federal government makes laws?	The correct response should identify the branch of the national government that makes legislation.
A	bureaucracy	<b>Incorrect</b> – The bureaucracy is part of the executive branch. The bureaucracy is responsible for enforcing laws.
B	executive	<b>Incorrect</b> – The executive branch enforces laws.
C	judicial	<b>Incorrect</b> – The judicial branch interprets laws.
D	legislative	<b>Correct</b> – The legislative branch makes laws.



### SS.7.C.3.3 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The newspaper headline below describes an event in U.S. history.</p> <div data-bbox="543 272 1102 708" data-label="Image"> <p>The image shows a newspaper clipping. At the top, it says 'DAILY NEWS' flanked by two stars, with the date 'August 4, 2006' below it. The main headline reads 'CYBERCRIME TREATY APPROVED'. Below the headline are several columns of placeholder text represented by horizontal lines.</p> </div> <p>Which parts of the national government participated in the process described in the newspaper headline?</p>	<p>Evaluate the roles of each branch of government in the treaty approval process.</p> <p>The correct response should identify the two branches of government that share the power to approve, or ratify, treaties.</p>
A	Senate and President	<b>Correct</b> – Article II of the U.S. Constitution delegates the power to negotiate treaties to the president. Article II also requires that treaties be ratified (approved) by the Senate.
B	Supreme Court and President	<b>Incorrect</b> – The U.S. Constitution does not delegate power in the treaty making process to the Supreme Court.
C	House of Representatives and Senate	<b>Incorrect</b> – The U.S. Constitution does not delegate power in the treaty making process to the House of Representatives.
D	Supreme Court and House of Representatives	<b>Incorrect</b> – The U.S. Constitution does not delegate power in the treaty making process to either the Supreme Court or the House of Representatives.



### SS.7.C.3.3 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The statement below is from a congressional document, July 27, 1974.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>Richard M. Nixon has acted in a manner contrary to his trust as President and subversive of constitutional government, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.</p> </div> <p>Source: U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>How have similar statements influenced modern congressional actions?</p>	<p>Read and analyze the statement. Predict how a statement issued by the House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary could influence Congress to take action.</p> <p>The correct answer should identify a congressional action that would most likely be influenced by critical statements about the President of the United States.</p>
A	presidential impeachment	<b>Correct</b> – The House of Representatives has the power to impeach presidents; the Senate holds the impeachment trial. Impeachment is the process by which Congress can bring charges. If the president is found guilty in the impeachment trial, the president may be removed from office for crimes against the United States. The House of Representatives made this statement about President Nixon, whose behavior caused “injury” to the “people of the United States.” The House of Representatives impeached a president in 1998 using similar statements.
B	presidential nomination	<b>Incorrect</b> – Congress does not have the power to nominate presidential candidates.
C	presidential election	<b>Incorrect</b> – Congress does not have the power to elect the president.
D	presidential veto	<b>Incorrect</b> – A presidential veto is not a congressional action. The president has the power to veto, or reject, bills that have been passed by Congress.

