

Sample Answers Judicial Branch in a Flash

Directions: Using the “Judicial Branch in a Flash!” iCivics reading, answer the following questions.

It's All About the Robes

1. How is the U.S. Constitution important to the creation of the federal court system?

The U.S. Constitution creates the Supreme Court and allows Congress to create other courts, which led to the federal court system being built.

Two Court Systems

2. What is the difference between the federal court system and state court system?

Federal courts deal with disputes about laws that apply to the entire United States and state courts deal with disputes about state laws.

3. How are state court systems created?

Each state court system was created based on the state's constitution to deal with disputes on state laws.

Which Court to Use

4. Give an example of a case that would be heard in a federal court.

Dispute between citizens in different states

5. Give an example of a case that would be heard in a state court.

Family matters

Criminal v. Civil

6. What is the difference between criminal and civil trials?

Civil trials relate to the rights of citizens and criminal trials related to crimes committed.

You're On Trial!

7. List three facts about trial courts.

- First court to hear a case
- State and federal systems have trial courts
- A jury of 12 people decide who wins the case

It's Not Over Until It's Over

8. If the losing side of a trial thinks that there has been an error, what can they do?

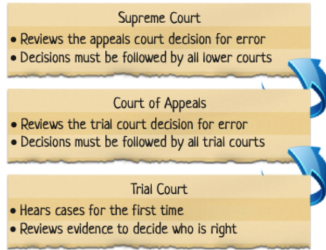
Ask a higher court to review the verdict in hopes of a different decision, called an appellate court.

9. List three things an appellate court can do.

- Affirm the trial court's decision, letting it stand
- Reverse the decision
- Remand the case back to the trial court to start over

Going Up! (And Sometimes Down)

10. Draw the different levels of the court system.



Judges and More Judges

11. What is the difference between trial courts and Court of Appeals?

The number of judges- trial courts have one judge and Court of Appeals has three.

And That's Final!

12. List three facts about the U.S. Supreme Court.

- U.S. Supreme Court has 9 justices
- They get to choose the cases they take
- Justices decide if something is unconstitutional