**Sample Answers The Federal and State Court System**

| | **The Federal Court System** | | --- |      | **The U.S. Supreme Court**   * This is the highest court in the United States. * The Supreme Court is structured with eight justices and a Chief Justice. * This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal and from state supreme courts. * The Supreme Court has the power of judicial review. * The U.S. Supreme Court is an appellate court. | | --- |  | **U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal**   * There are 12 circuits in the U.S. * These courts have panels of three judges that hear cases. * This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. District Courts. * The U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal are appellate courts. | | --- |  | **U.S. District Courts**   * There are 94 district courts in the U.S. * The courts are structured with a judge and a jury. * This court level is where most federal cases start. * This court has the power to hear civil and criminal cases related to federal laws. * The U.S. District Courts are trial courts. | | --- | | | **The Florida State Court System** | | --- |      | **The Florida Supreme Court**   * This is the highest court in Florida and is located in Tallahassee. * The FL Supreme Court is structured with seven justices, one justice serves as Chief Justice. * This court has the power to hear appeals from the District Courts of Appeal as well as other cases as assigned from the FL Legislature. * The Florida Supreme Court is an appellate court. | | --- |  | **Florida District Courts of Appeal**   * There are 5 districts in Florida. * The courts have panels of three judges that hear cases. * This court has the power to hear appeals from Florida Circuit Courts. * The Florida District Courts of Appeal are appellate courts. | | --- |  | **Florida Circuit Courts**   * There are 20 circuit courts in Florida. * The courts are structured with a judge and a jury. * This court has the power to hear trials on cases not assigned to county courts and appeals from county courts. * The Florida Circuit Courts are trial and appellate courts. | | --- |  | **Florida County Courts**   * There is a county court in every Florida county. * The courts are structured with a judge. * This court has the power of minor arguments between citizens and minor criminal offenses. * The Florida County Courts are trial courts. | | --- | |
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Information adapted from: <http://www.uscourts.gov/about-federal-courts/court-role-and-structure>, <http://www.flcourts.org/>, and <http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/pub_info/system2.shtml>.