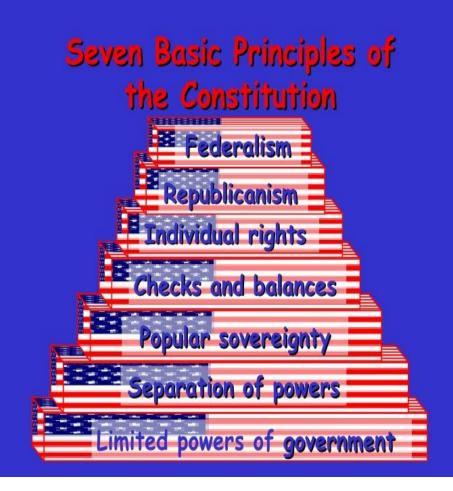
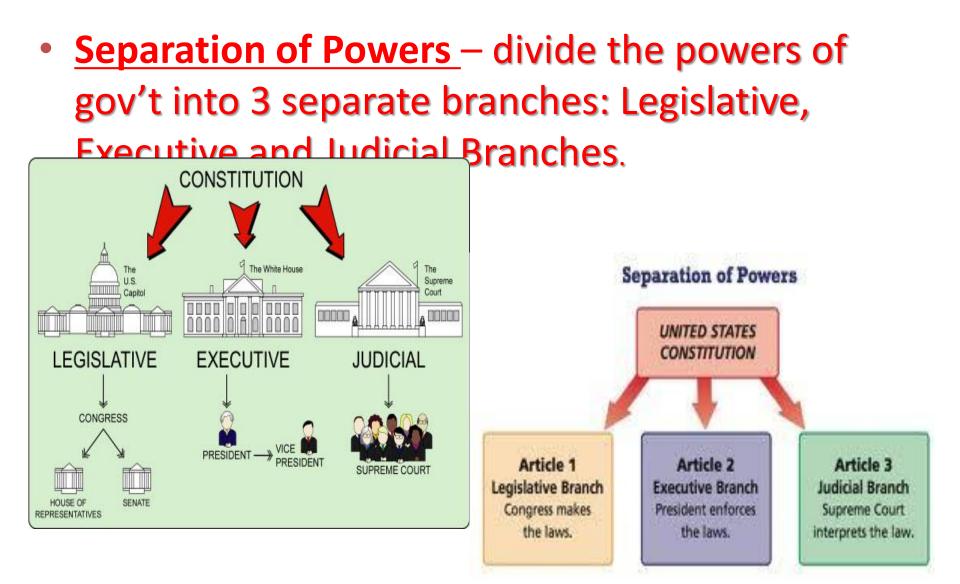
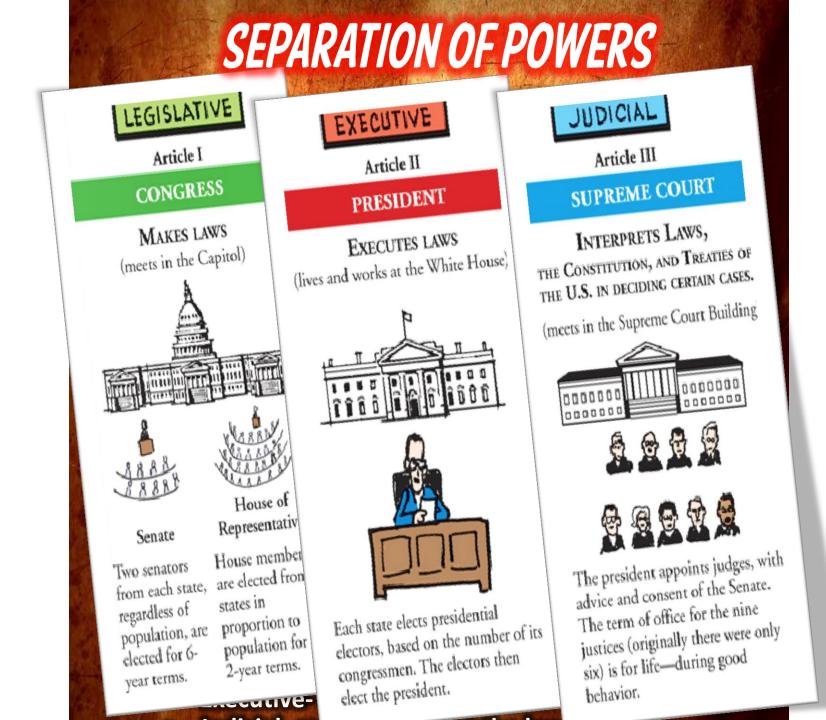
Constitutional Principles

- There are seven (7) constitutional principles that the Constitutional Convention of 1787 created.
- These principles are STILL in place today!
- We will go over <u>two</u> of them in this chapter.
 - Checks and Balances
 - Separation of Power

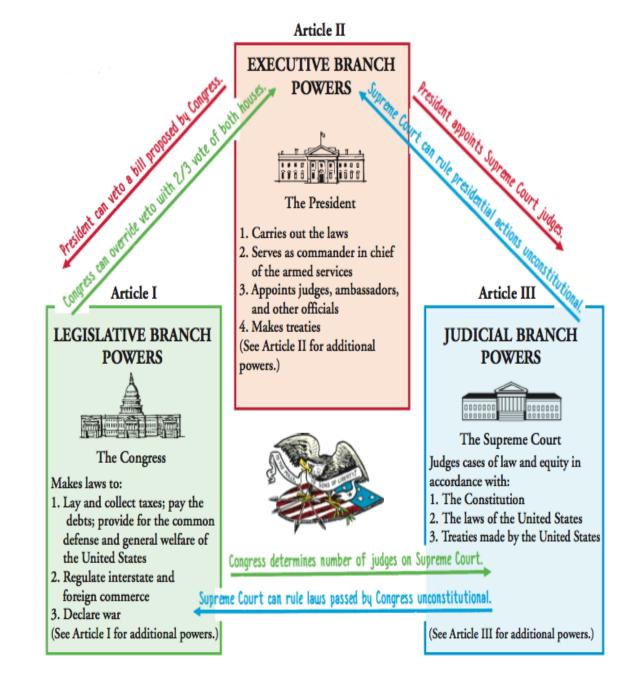






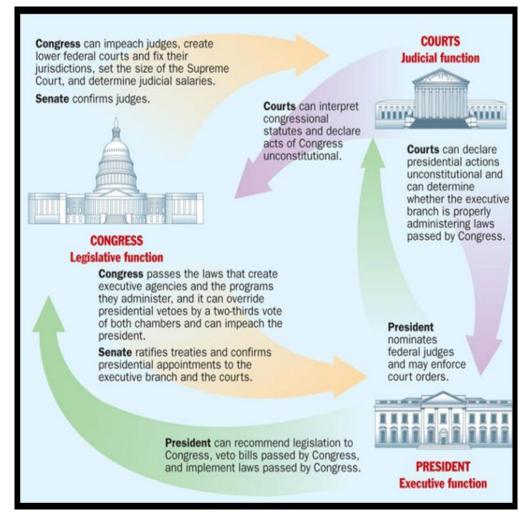
Checks and Balances – created to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful.

> https://www.youtube.co m/watch?v=6W8W3p9Ot 7M



Checks and Balances (cont.)

- To keep one branch from seizing all power, the Constitution uses a system of checks and balances.
- Each branch of government holds powers over the other two branches. It is used to *limit* each branch's powers.
- This idea was inspired by Montesquieu and Ancient Rome.



A CLOSER LOOK Checks and Balances

CHECKS ON PRESIDENT

- Can declare executive acts unconstitutional
- Judges, appointed for life, are free from executive control

Judicial Branch (Supreme Court)

CHECKS ON CONGRESS

 Judicial review—Can declare acts of Congress unconstitutional

CHECKS ON COURTS

 Appoints federal judges
Can grant reprieves and pardons for federal crimes

Executive Branch (President)

CHECKS ON CONGRESS

- Can veto acts of Congress
- Can call special sessions of Congress
- Can suggest laws and send messages to Congress

CHECKS ON PRESIDENT

- Can impeach and remove the president
- Can override veto
- Controls spending of money
- Senate can refuse to confirm presidential appointments and to ratify treaties



Legislative Branch (Congress)

CHECKS ON COURT

- Can impeach and remove federal judges
- Establishes lower federal courts
- Can refuse to confirm judicial appointments

Ratification

- By the end of 1788, 11 out of the 13 states had voted and ratified (approved) the U.S. Constitution.
- The U.S. Constitution had become the new law of the land – with a Bill of Bights

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RATIFICATION:

- → Federalists promise addition of a Bill of Rights
- → Ratification succeeded, new government formed 1789
- → James Madison drafts 10 amendments to the Constitution, these become the U.S. Bill of Rights

