Article I: The Legislative Branch

Article _____ of the United States Constitution organizes the  
______________________________________________ branch of the government. The  
two parts of Congress are the  
______________________________________________ and the  
______________________________________________

The Constitution explains the rules of the Senate. The term of office for senators is  
________ years. There are a total of __________ senators. This means there are  
_______ senators from each ______________________. The title for the leader of  
the Senate is the _______________________________. Another leader of the Senate is the  
_______________________________________________.

(United States Constitution, Article I, Section 3)

The Constitution also explains the rules of the **House of Representatives**. The term of  
office for the House is ____________ years. There are a total of ____________ representatives. This number is determined by a state’s  
_______________________________________________. The leader of the House is called  
the ______________________________________.  
(United States Constitution, Article I, Section 2)

Concluding sentence  
______________________________________________
The main job of the legislative branch is to create the nation’s ______.

There is a long process a bill must go through to become a _________________. First, a bill can start in either part of Congress. If a bill starts in the Senate, then the Senate must __________________ on the bill. If the majority of the Senate votes no, then the bill is _________________. If the majority votes yes, then the bill goes to the _________________________________.

Next, the House of Representatives votes on the bill. If the House votes no, the bill is _________________. If the majority of the House votes yes, the bill goes to the _________________________________.

Next, the president has a few options. The president can ________________ the bill and it will become a law. However, the president can ________________ the bill. If the president vetoes a bill, then it goes back to Congress. The full Congress must vote again on the bill. If ___________________________ of both the Senate and the House vote for the bill, then _________________________________.

(United States Constitution, Article I, Section 7)

Concluding sentence
Article II: The Executive Branch

Article _____ of the United States Constitution organizes the
______________________________________________ branch of the government. This
includes the
_______________________________________________.
The Constitution explains the qualifications and term of office for the
_______________________________________________.
There are three qualifications to be eligible for the presidency. They are
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
The term of office for the president and vice president is ______________________
________________________________________________________________________
(United States Constitution, Article II, Section 1)

Next, to help run the country, the president has a cabinet and executive
Departments. The cabinet is _____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
The executive departments are _____________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
One example of an executive department is
________________________________________________________________________
Its job is to _____________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
(United States Constitution, Article II, Section 2)
Concluding Sentence
________________________________________________________________________
The president and vice president are elected indirectly through the states. The United States elects the president and the vice president with the electoral ___________. Each state has electoral votes. The number of votes a state gets is determined by the number of people it has in Congress. This means the state’s _______ senators plus the number of ___________________________ it has in the House.

For example, California has 

________________________________________________________________________

Therefore, California has ___________________ electoral votes for the president.

(United States Constitution, Article II, Section 1)

One problem with this system is the winner of the popular vote can lose this election. This can happen because a presidential candidate could win ____________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Article III: The Judicial Branch

Article _____ of the United States Constitution organizes the __________________________________________ branch of the government.
This created the _____________________________________________________________.
The Supreme Court has qualifications and rules. There are ___________ justices on the Court. Supreme Court Justices serve for ____________________________________________. This means they are justices for _________________________________. Justices are appointed by the __________________________________________ and approved by the __________________________________________. The Supreme Court will listen to about ___________ cases per year. It is the highest court in the country and their decisions are _______________________.
(United States Constitution, Art. II, Sect. 2. Art. III, Sect. 1)
The power of the Supreme Court is called Judicial _____________________________.
This means _________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________.
Concluding Sentence (Green)
______________________________________________________________
Article III and the Judiciary Act of ______________________ created the federal (national) court system. The federal court system starts with the lowest level called the ________________________________
These courts are the ______________________ in the federal system.
The next level is called the ________________________________.
Their job is __________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Finally, the highest court is the ________________________________

_____________________________________________________

Concluding Sentence

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
One big idea in the American government is the separation of powers. This means

The government separates power to make sure people’s

The United States government separates power into three branches. The first branch is the

or Congress. The second branch is the

This includes the president. The third branch is the

This includes the Court. The justices’ job is to
Separation of powers leads to checks and balances in the government. Checks and balances limit the power of the government because

To check power means

To balance power means

One example of checks and balances involves creating laws. If Congress passes a bill, the president can check Congress by

On the other hand, Congress can check the president’s power by passing a bill he/she has vetoed by

Concluding Sentence