

Related Media Video: "Checks and Balances Intro"  
16.B.ii

Watch the "Checks and Balances Intro" video found at:

([http://www.studiesweekly.com/online/resources/pod\\_media/pod\\_video\\_checks\\_and\\_balances\\_FINAL\\_720p.mp4](http://www.studiesweekly.com/online/resources/pod_media/pod_video_checks_and_balances_FINAL_720p.mp4)).

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Executive Branch	Legislative Branch	Judicial Branch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• must _____ laws passed by the _____ branch</li><li>• can appoint _____ to the Supreme _____</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• can override a president's _____ with a _____ vote</li><li>• approves the president's choices for who can serve as a _____</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• has the power to _____ laws that have been approved by both _____ and the _____</li></ul>

1. Describe the checks and balances that the executive branch has over the other two branches.

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2. Describe the checks and balances that the legislative branch has over the other two branches.

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3. Describe the checks and balances that the judicial branch has over the other two branches.

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4. How does the system of checks and balances help our government work?

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## Answer Key

### Fill In -

Executive Branch: approve, legislative, justices/judges, court

Legislative Branch: veto, 2/3rds, justice/judge

Judicial Branch: strike down, Congress, president

1. The executive branch can veto laws passed by the legislative branch. The executive branch also appoints judges to the judicial branch.
2. The legislative branch can override a president's veto with a 2/3rds vote. The legislative branch also approves or disapproves judges before they are appointed to the judicial branch.
3. The judicial branch can declare laws and actions of both other branches as unconstitutional.
4. The system of checks and balances helps our government work by making sure that no one branch is too powerful, so all three must work together to govern.