

# ABOUT THIS PACKET

Each reading passage in this packet allows students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

## OVERVIEW

### THE CASE

Read the case aloud to your students so they understand the mission.

### QUESTIONS

There are 18 questions to be answered by reading the passage and marking the text evidence.

### CLUES

After answering each question, the students will **erase** their answer choice on their answer sheet. After all questions have been answered, the suspect, evidence, and location will be revealed.

### GRADE LEVEL

### RANGE

4

BEGINNING

4

MIDDLE

5

BEGINNING

5

MIDDLE

5

END

6

BEGINNING

6

MIDDLE

6

END

7

BEGINNING

# BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

There are three different sections of government in the United States. These different sections are referred to as branches. Each of the branches has a different purpose and function. The branches work together in many forms, but the power of each branch is separated from the powers of the other branches. This is to prevent one branch of government from becoming too powerful and having no checks and balances. The three branches of government are the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial.

The Legislative Branch, Article I, includes the Senate and the House of Representatives. It is considered bicameral, which means it has two houses or parts. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives together are called Congress. The main purpose of this branch is to write or create bills that become laws. This branch also restricts the power of the president, if needed. If the president vetoes or rejects a bill, Congress can override it with  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote and make it a law. The Legislative Branch also has other functions. It can declare war, impeach the president, confirm or reject treaties, and approve or deny the president's appointments. The Legislative Branch also has special agencies that provide support and help inform Congress on decisions. The citizens of the United States vote for Senators and Representatives to represent them in Congress. The Senate has 100 members, and the House has 435.

The Executive Branch, Article II, includes the President of the United States. The president is the leader of the Executive Branch with the title Head of State. The Executive Branch also includes the Vice President and a group of advisors called the Cabinet. The citizens of the United States vote for both the President and Vice President on election day in November. The members of the Cabinet are appointed (picked or chosen) by the president when voted on in Congress. The Cabinet helps the president make important decisions across a variety of issues, including military operations. The Executive Branch enforces laws. It can also make treaties and appoint judges. The

3 What does means  
made up of two  
different parts?



Interpret



Verify



Bilateral



Pardon

4 The Executive  
Branch \_\_\_\_\_ the  
laws.



Enforces



Creates



Interprets



Makes

5 The Legislative  
Branch is Article  
\_\_\_\_\_.



IV



III



II



I

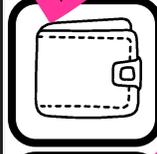
6 When is election  
day?



October



November



December



January

7

What is the leading  
judge of the  
Supreme Court  
called?



Head Justice



President Pro



Associate Justice



Chief Justice

8

How long do  
justices serve?



4 years



6 years



8 years



Life

9

What amount is  
needed to override  
a veto?



1/2



2/3



3/4



1/3

10

To \_\_\_\_\_ someone  
means to set aside the  
punishment for a  
federal crime.



Confirm



Pardon



Veto



Bicameral

# CASE FILE

Cross out the images you use as an answer. What remains will solve the case!

SUSPECTS



LOCATION



EVIDENCE



CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED  
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED  
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

# MORE RESOURCES

*Click on each icon!*

