

ABOUT THIS PACKET

The Close Reading Passages in this packet allow students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

TASK	OVERVIEW
TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANK	The Fill in the Blank task has students using context clues to support the correct answer. Certain words are omitted, and students will use the word bank to find the correct answer.
TASK 2: VOCABULARY	The vocabulary activity helps kids understand new or unfamiliar words before they complete further activities.
TASK 3: CROSSWORD	Students will reread the passage searching for answers to the crossword puzzle.
TASK 4: TEXT MARKING	Students will reread the passage again looking for text-marking evidence and annotating the text.
TASK 5: TRUE OR FALSE	Now that students have read the passage several times, they should be able to answer the True or False questions with very little reference back to the reading. This task helps to show overall comprehension of the passage.
TASK 6: SUMMARY	After identifying key vocabulary words, searching for evidence and text-marking, students will fill out the final summary graphic organizer.
GRADE LEVEL	PASSAGE
4	MIDDLE
4	END
5	BEGINNING
5	MIDDLE
5	END
6	BEGINNING
6	MIDDLE
6	END
7	BEGINNING

TASK 1: FILL IN THE BLANK

Directions: Use the words below to fill in the reading.

	November	President
Judicial	Senate	branches
powerful	100	create

There are three different sections of government in the United States. These different sections are known as the _____. 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 _____ and known as checks and balances. The three branches of government are the Legislative, Executive, and _____.

The Legislative Branch, Article I, includes the _____ 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 _____ 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 _____ vote and make it a law. The Legislative Branch also has other functions. It can declare war, impeach the president, confirm or reject the president's appointments, and approve or deny the president's appointments. The Legislative Branch also has special committees 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 _____ members, and the House has 435.

The Executive Branch, Article II, includes the _____ 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 _____. The members of the Cabinet are appointed (picked or chosen) by the president, then

TASK 2: VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Directions: Choose 5 words from the reading that are unfamiliar or new to you and fill in the diagram below.



WORD



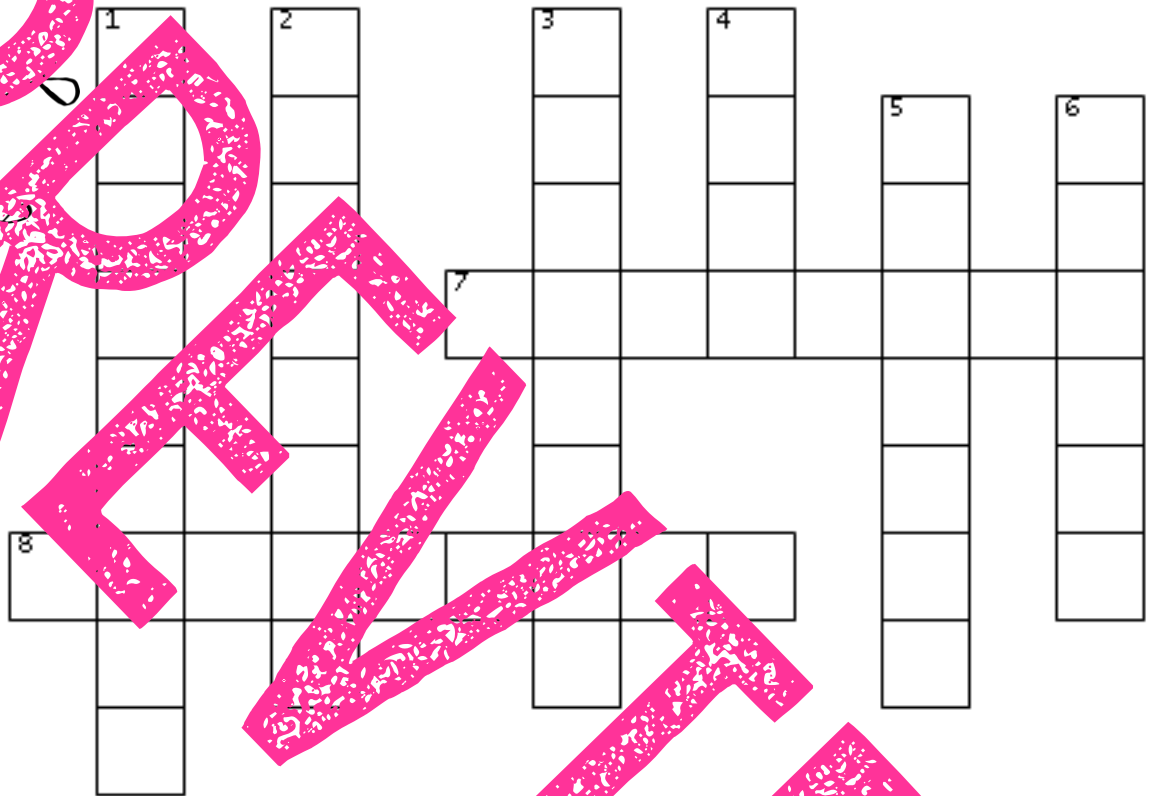
PICTURE



DEFINITION

TASK 3: CROSSWORD

Directions: Complete the crossword puzzle by reading the clues below and entering the correct response.



ACROSS

7. Month of election day
8. The leader of the Executive Branch

DOWN

1. Two houses or parts
2. The Legislative Branch is also known as _____
3. The Executive Branch _____ the laws
4. Number of Supreme Court justices
5. Group of advisors to the president
6. To set aside the punishment for a federal crime



TASK 6: SUMMARIZE



TOPIC SENTENCE



SUPPORTING DETAIL

SUPPORTING DETAIL

SUPPORTING DETAIL



SUMMARY



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