

Branches

By: Grace Lincoln

We the people live in a government
That is much like a tree
A big, strong tree that towers over many others

Each citizen serves as a grain of soil
We feed the roots of our local governments
With our voices, opinions, and votes
From there the roots will carry those thoughts
To the branches
The three big, strong branches
All equal in size...power
If one outweighs the others then the tree falls
It's bark begins to rot...corruption

This is why each branch connects to one another
Holding each other up
Connecting to each other

If one branch decides to take over
It will bring the tree down
Make it weak...and ultimately...
Cause it to fall

So we the people live in a government
That is much like a tree
A big, strong tree that towers over many others
And if we want to remain this way
The tree's branches must remain in check
And keep the tree balanced.

My poetry entry is in the form of an extended metaphor. Throughout the entire poem I'm comparing our government to a tree...a big, strong tree that towers over many others, much like our government does at times. Obviously there's the comparison of tree branches and what we call our three branches of government, but I tried digging a little deeper than that. I go on to say that each of us citizens is a grain of soil, essential to feeding the tree our opinions and ideas. Lastly if one of this tree's branches out grows the others or becomes too powerful then the tree can have trouble balancing and eventually fall. Once the tree falls it begins to rot, much like our government can in the form of corruption. This is why it is very important that our government continues to function like a healthy tree. The soil of citizens feeding the tree through the roots of our local governments that then pass the nutrients of opinions on to the three federal branches of our government equally.

The Separation of Powers

There are checks and balances, but it's not a bank.

There are three groups of power, but not one has a king.

One group creates laws, and manages money.

Another group judges, the law, you, and your buddies.

The third group is one we know well; enforcing rules which we both love and hate.

But still each group can make mistakes.

One ruler never works well.

Two in charge still isn't swell.

Three is the perfect amount however,
through a separation of powers.

Legislative. Judicial. Executive,

They balance each other out.

Create. Judge. Enforce.

The system works without a doubt.

The Judicial and Executive can say no,
to creating new laws.

The Executive and Legislative decides who's in charge,
and makes judges pause.

The Legislative and Judicial can reject decisions,
but only to an extent.

Together they keep the country free,
although it might take multiple attempts.

Who leads America? Some may ask,
it sure isn't a king.

"The president then!" others exclaim,
and they forget that we are led by three.

Legislative. Judicial. Executive.

They balance each other out.

Create. Judge. Enforce.

It works without a doubt.

Three Men Across the Pond
By Lawrence Deng

“Now listen here, I am no fool,” said the statesman
“I know what laws to make, what things to ban
Give me the power, make it absolute
My word ought be law they cannot refute”

“And what if you abuse this power for your own?”
Angered, the judge cried at what had been shown
“The law will not always be so righteous
’Twill be my job to make sure each one is”

“Both of you say much, and do little with your head
I’ll carry out the deeds,” the lawman said
“I’ll be watching the two of you as well
Should your senses and morals go to hell”

“And I’ll be watching you,” the statesman uttered back
“Should I find your honor corrupt and slack”
“It seems the watchmen now watch the watchmen”
Smiled the judge, “Our worries are settled then”

Across the pond they sat, three men
With nothing but their wits, some paper, and a pen
In broken thoughts, and huddled whispers, did they write
’Tis over powers and domains did they fight

Watched with nerves, the peasants in fear
For hung in the balance, all they held dear
Their freedoms and rights, securities too
Depended on this dream of a country be true



Elizabeth Overberg

9th Grade Essay

Northview Middle School

March 28, 2018

The Courts: Guardian of the Constitution

“If men were angels, no government would be necessary,” observed James Madison. The American founding fathers knew that all men had flaws and if given individual power, they would act in self interest. Consequently, the Separation of Powers (balancing of federal powers between the three branches of government) was created which currently ensures that Americans’ constitutional rights and freedoms are neither infringed on nor forgotten through the self-interest of any part of the government.

The Constitution creates three distinct branches of government that protect the rights of all Americans through the separation of powers: the executive branch (Presidency), which executes the laws; the legislative branch (Congress), which creates the laws; and the judicial branch (Supreme Court), which interprets the laws and protects the Constitution. Since each branch is responsible for a separate part of the government, a system of checks and balances was created; this helps ensure that all branches preserve the Constitution. While all branches strive for its protection, the judiciary branch most effectively protects the Constitution through the process of judicial review.

Judicial review was first introduced in 1803 in the case Marbury v. Madison where Supreme Court Justice John Marshall decided that “it is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is; that is, the Supreme Court has the power to strike

down acts of both the legislative and executive branches that are inconsistent with the Constitution.” Judicial review is more significant than the other tools of balance, such as vetoes or impeachment, because of its direct protection of the Constitution by telling the other branches that they have exceeded their powers.

Currently, judicial review has kept our nation from ignoring the democratic rights and framework of our government installed through the Constitution. For example, the Supreme Court has agreed to review President Trump’s third version of his travel ban which restricts the travel of many people from certain nations within and into the United States. Around the nation, arguments have developed that claim these bans violate the immigration laws and the section of the Constitution relating to religious discrimination. This act of judicial review shows that even the President can exceed his powers, and the judicial branch has the ability to stop transcending control. The Supreme Court’s power allows it to see if this ban has infringed on the Constitution and strike it down before it continues to terminate the freedom of American civilians.

Thus, John Marshall, the Supreme Court Justice who first defined judicial review, reminds society that “We must never forget that it is a *constitution* we are expounding.” With the Separation of Powers, through significant processes such as judicial review, the government can ensure the Constitutional freedom of its citizens are never violated. Especially with the current unpredictable and hostile events occurring, it is vital that the American government limits individual branches’ powers along with their own in order to protect all Americans from dangerous acts of self interest.

Anna Correa

Law Day Government Project

Kelly

30 March 2018

CHECK It Out

A Day in the Life of the American Government

This year's Law Day theme is Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom seeks to help students understand the importance of the separation of the three main branches of government in America. One of The Founding Fathers' main motivations in leaving England was to avoid the tyrannical rule of one leader. Therefore, they wanted a balance between more than one entity of government and created separate powers that had legal checks on each other to prevent one branch from getting too powerful. Insofar as the branches continue to balance each other out and check each other's' power, the freedom of the people is protected.

My video conveys the theme by going through a simplified, theoretical day in the life of the American government. It has three characters that represent the three branches of government (the separated powers) that each go through common functions in their purview of responsibilities. With each statement, the other branches jump in with their responses to the attempted action. The exemplifies the unique checking powers of each branch and displays how the separation of of the branches protects the freedoms of the people. The somewhat silly and radical examples from the Legislative and Executive branches help further the importance of breaking up the distribution of power and having checks. The video interprets the theme artistically and adorably by using relatable terms and characters to explain a rather complex concept in simple terms that the average person can understand.

Essay

Separation of Powers: Framework for Freedom

In the beginning of United States history, the Articles of Confederation set standards for the rule and governance of the nation. Due to the sovereignty of the states and limited national government, the Articles of Confederation proved an inadequate fit for America. The Framers sought out a solution to the government that was failing under the Articles. This resulted in the Constitutional Convention that met for many days while trying to formulate compromises that would please states on both sides of different issues. Eventually, the Constitutional Convention was able to create the United States Constitution, which has been in effect for over two hundred years.

A crucial part of the Constitution that has helped in creating both a free and stable nation, is the separation of powers. The national government was divided into three branches in order to avoid tyranny from concentrated power. Article 1 of the Constitution lays out the powers of the legislative branch, Article 2 lays out the executive branch, and Article 3 lays out the judicial branch. Each of the three branches has certain powers granted to them in which they are able to serve as checks on power to the other branches. Through the well planned system of checks and balances, it was certain that one branch would not be able to take sole power and infringe upon the rights of the citizens. In order to ensure freedom for the citizens, there was a need to protect the people from the government growing too strong. It was believed, from looking at other governments at the time, that when a government had too much power tyranny would start to occur and violate the rights of the people. The system created by the Framers was not the most

effective form of governance, but it was able to maximize freedom for the people of the United States.

While the branches of government may be but an insignificant detail to some people, the true purpose of these branches is crucial to maintain the freedoms granted to American citizens. The Framers of the Constitution had the foresight to create a system of government that would successfully preserve the people's freedom and rights. Separation of powers, through a system of checks and balances, makes up the framework for freedom.

Josiah DeValois

Separation of Powers for a Successful Republic

Throughout history, governments and empires have fallen because too much power was invested in one person, and that person either did not rule as effectively as possible, or that ruler died and the nation was left in disarray. In order to avoid this, the founding fathers of the United States used the democratic republic form of government, the same form of government used by Rome prior to its becoming the Roman Empire. Historically, every republic has changed into an empire, and then eventually fallen. To keep from this imminent possibility, a type of separation of powers was formed in which each group (not individual person) was given responsibilities and duties to keep the nation from a fall to empire.

Ultimately, this separation of powers is what has kept the United States from deteriorating. Because there are three separate branches, each with unique responsibilities, a fall to tyranny becomes exponentially more difficult. Due to the fact that no branch has the power to do anything more than its assigned task, all three branches must work in correlation with one another in a check and balance system. If one branch oversteps, the other two branches are there to keep the overreaching branch in “check,” meaning that they will not let that branch do more than it is allowed. With the power of the nation divided as much as it is, great odds would need to be overcome in order for the republic to fall. Due to an ingenious system devised by our founding fathers, the United States has been able to last and thrive for many years in the past, and many years to come.

Anna Correa

Law Day Government Project

Kelly

30 March 2018

“Framing of Our Freedoms” Song

The first verse gives some of the historical background of the separation of powers in American history. It provides the original reason the Founding Fathers were afraid of one singularly powerful leader: the tyrannical king of England that had been one of the main reasons they left in the first place. It also clarifies the purpose of avoiding one ruler by saying that it's to protect the people's liberty, not just because the founders wanted it that way.

The chorus outlines the main functions of each branch of government. The Legislative branch is responsible for creating statutes and legislation, the Executive branch is led by the President who is responsible for enforcing the laws created by the Legislative branch, and the Judicial rules on the Constitutionality of the actions of both other branches.

The second verse identifies one of the most prominent men in American history, James Madison, as a Federalist who supported the separation of powers for the purpose of preventing anger of the people. The term coup also foreshadows the events of Shays' Rebellion in the mid-1700s that occurred partially because citizens were upset at the overreach of the government. The fundamental foundation of the American government is based on the separated branches.

The bridge further restates the jobs of each of the branches to reinforce their importance. The term “judicial review” appears that is the court's' ability to clarify the scope of the Constitution in terms of legislation. The President is allowed to veto laws proposed by the Legislative and check people the Legislative branch appoints. Although seemingly contradictory, Congress holds the power of creating lower courts, as well as the power to impeach executives if necessary.

Continued on the next page

Anna Correa

Verse 1

America is based upon the people's liberty
The colonists left Britain and needed to agree
So when the fathers met, they broke it into sects
To save us all from tyranny of one almighty king

Chorus

The Legislative writes and passes many laws
Executive's the President and they enforce it all
Judicial makes the check on how the government can be
The framing of our freedoms is broken into three

Verse 2

Madison the Federalist wrote for the separate groups
Dividing each one's power prevents the risk of coups
Each branch of government acts as a fundament
Separated powers in the founding document

Chorus

The Legislative writes and passes many laws
Executive's the President and they enforce it all
Judicial makes the check on how the government can be
The framing of our freedoms is broken into three

Bridge

The courts use judicial review to let the country know what they're allowed to do
The President vetoes and checks nominations, ensuring Justice for the whole nation.
Congress creates courts and can impeach an executive that past their limits has reached.

Final Chorus

The Legislative writes and passes many laws
Executive's the President and they enforce it all
Judicial makes the check on how the government can be
The framing of our freedoms is broken into three

Sylvi Ross
Mrs. Koerselman's 5th Grade
March 29, 2018

The Branches of Government

The foundation of the United States Constitution is separation of power. The first three articles describe the branches of government. There are three different branches of the government - the legislative, the judicial, and the executive. Visualize the three branches like a tree. The people are the roots; the branches of the government are like the branches of the tree.

Legislate means to make laws. The legislative branch includes two houses; the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the federal and state governments, their main job is to make laws. In the Federal government, they have a lot more jobs to do than in the state government. Some of the jobs the federal government does include: passing laws, originating spending bills (House), and improving treaties (Senate). In federal and state governments, their idea to make a new law is first called a bill. After they write it down, Congress discusses and votes on it. If the bill passes, it becomes a law. For Congress at the federal level, the United States Constitution controls what can be done. But what state legislators can do is up to each state's constitution. This is why legislators have to know their state's constitution and the United States Constitution. This is what the legislative branch does and who they are.

Judicial means of, by, or appropriate to a court judge. The Judicial Branch includes the Supreme Court and other federal courts. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States. The Judicial Branch interprets the meaning of laws and how they are applied. They also decide if laws violate the Constitution and apply laws to individual cases. The Constitution gives Congress authority to create other federal courts. Judges are nominated by the President, debated and voted on by the Senate, prior to their confirmation. Only 51 votes are needed to confirm the candidate for the Supreme court justice or any other federal judgeship. This is who the judicial branch is and what they do.

Executive means to have the power to be able to put plans or laws into action. The executive branch is made up of the President, the cabinet, and federal agencies. The

President is in charge of the executive branch and is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces. The President is responsible for implementing and enforcing laws that are written by the legislative branch and appointing the heads of federal agencies. The cabinet and federal agencies are responsible for enforcing and administering federal laws for day-to-day. One of the federal departments is the department of education. This department is responsible for establishing policies, enforcing federal laws, and collecting educational data.

This is what the branches of the government do, and who they are. Each branch has different duties. But, no one branch has more power than the other because of checks and balances. The people of the United States are in charge of the government. Because of this, all of this is done with their consent.



Mackenzie Gruhlke
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Judicial

Supreme rulers of all the land,
No one is above their justice hands.
Day and night, never sleep,
A life sentence they must keep.

Executive

Its powerful wrath faced like a bow,
Small but mighty, like a crow.
Carrying on their back,
A heavy slack.
The protector of all land,
Who attempts to bind us like a band.

Legislative

Many traits,
Bind into one.
The House, The Senate, together and done.
They create the laws,
Causing some in the country to scream their divided caws.

Judicial, Executive, and Legislative never.
It always binds us back into our orderly tether.
As our government today is diverse and separated,
We still areal in our union, protected and gated.

Keira Moore
Mrs. Koerselman
March 24, 2018

The Separation of Powers

If someone came up to you and asked you "Do you think the U.S. government is like a trumpet?" What would you say? You are probably thinking I'm crazy already, but, once you start to really think about it for a while, you might start to get it. You're also probably wondering, "What in the world does this have to do with the separation of powers, at all?", but I think, maybe I can convince you. First, I think the U.S. government's branches, separation of powers is like a trumpet because there are three branches of government, and there are three valves on a trumpet. Second, each branch is different, and each note is different. Finally, separation of powers equals a better government and more notes equals better songs. Here are some reasons why I think this.

First, I think the U.S. government's branches, separation of powers is like a trumpet because there are three branches of government, and there are three valves on a trumpet. The three valves and the three branches can work together to create what they need to fulfill.

Next, I think the U.S. government's branches, separation of powers is like a trumpet because, each valve has a different job, and each branch has a different job. The three branches are, the Legislative branch, the Executive branch, and the Judicial branch. The people in the Legislative branch are, Congress, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. They make the laws. The people in the Executive branch are the President of the United States, and their cabinet. They carry out the laws. The people in the Judicial branch are all the courts across our country. They decide the meaning of laws. The three valves all do different things. One of them goes down half steps, another one goes down whole steps, and the last one goes down third steps. Every valve has a different job, and every branch has a different responsibility, which makes better music and a more successful government.

Finally, I think the U.S. government's branches, separation of powers are like a trumpet because, each branch sharing separate power, equals a better government and the right notes equal better tune and music playing. Separate powers means no branch have higher authority or responsibility than the other. When the right notes play in songs, or the right law comes your way and helps you, it sometimes brings an energetic or firm feeling in you that sometimes makes you feel proud or relieved.

I hope you learned how working together with separate powers can usually make you successful whatever you do in life with a team. Thank you for reading my essay about the U.S. government's branches separation of powers.

SEPARATION OF POWERS

By Joey Zambreno

Separation of powers means that the three branches of government are separated and have separate duties but all the branches of government are co-equal. This means that all the branches are equal and have the same amount of power. The Executive branch carries out the laws. The Legislative branch makes the laws. The Judicial branch decides if the laws are constitutional. The reason we have separation of powers is so the three branches can check to see if one branch is getting too much power. This is called Checks and Balances. An example of Checks and Balances is Congress can pass a law but the President can veto it or the Supreme Court and the Judicial Branch can rule a law unconstitutional.

Separation of Powers it is important because it makes sure that one branch of government does not get too much power. The Framers of the Constitution wanted to make sure one branch did not get too much power. The Framers wanted three branches of government so the United States did not turn into England with one powerful ruler. That is why the Framers were trying to form their own government in the first place – to get away from a king who had all the power and made all the laws for them.

All of these Checks and Balances may mean that getting a law passed and approved is harder because it may have to go through a lot of steps. But that is a good tradeoff because these checks and balances keep the people of the United States safe from one powerful ruler.

The Branches of Government

By Harper Cope

I love America, this is what makes America great! The type of government we have in the United States of America is a Democracy. A Democracy means people elect representatives. The Executive and Legislative branches are a democracy. The Judicial Branch is appointed. Appointed means they are picked and not elected. Another thing that is unique is we have a Federal system of government which means we have a national government, a state government and local governments. Local governments run our cities and our schools. My Dad was elected and serves on the Johnston, Iowa City Council!

Here is what all of the Branches do

Legislative Branch:

The Legislative Branch makes the rules and the laws. The Legislative Branch is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate which make up the Congress. At the state level, we also have a House and Senate that meet at the State Capitol building in Des Moines. My dad works there--he is a lobbyist and advocates for and against certain pieces of legislation.

Executive Branch:

The Executive Branch enforces laws. The power is in the office of the President. My favorite President is President Abraham Lincoln because he stopped slavery and has the same Birthday as me (not the same year) anyways, In Iowa, the executive branch is headed by the Governor. The Governor in Iowa is Kim Reynolds, who is the first woman to serve as Iowa's Governor.

Judicial Branch:

The Judicial Branch determines if the law has been broken. The President gets to pick the Judicial Branch and the Senate hopefully agrees. At the state level, the Governor appoints judges, but they are not approved by the legislature.

Here is how the system works; Let's say a woman robs a bank and steals a car. The Legislative Branch made that illegal by the laws. The Executive Branch operates the police who arrest the person who broke the law. The Judicial Branch puts the person on trial and if convicted, determines the penalty. I am so thankful for the government!

Kate Bergan
Prairie Ridge Middle School
7th grade

Battle of the Branches

During May of 1787 through September, the great leaders of our young country met to strengthen the government which was currently governed under the Articles of Confederation. The leaders from each state agreed that this new government had to be perfect for all people. Eventually it was decided that there would be three branches of government with three different responsibilities. These branches all stay in line and are equal to each other through a system called checks and balances. But, this isn't how things always go. The branches all think they are the most powerful. The question is, "Which branch is actually the best?"

Hello everyone, I am the legislative branch. I have two branches of representation within me; the Senate consists of two representatives from each state and the House consists of a certain number of representatives from each state depending on their population. Together, we are called Congress and our purpose is to create laws. You can't have a country without laws, otherwise everything and everyone would be chaotic. Also, every other branch depends on me, the executive branch can't execute the laws if there are no laws to follow, and the judicial branch can't interpret the laws without laws to interpret. Therefore, I am the strongest, most important, and powerful branch.

Although the legislative branch creates laws, there is no point of having laws if they don't go anywhere. I am the executive branch and my purpose is to execute the laws. Within my branch there is the president who is the face of our government, and his cabinet members. Back to why my branch has more importance than the others: the judicial branch would have nothing to do if the people never knew what the laws are and what they have to do to follow them. I am the best branch because the other two need me to have purpose to their jobs, also because the people of the country know me better than any other branch.

I am the final and most important branch. I am the branch that everything leads up to. I am the judicial branch. I am the court, and the judges that are within the court. I keep the people in order. When there is a problem or someone disobeys a law, I make sure justice is served. You see, laws are made for the people to follow. They are made so people do as they are supposed to and so life isn't chaotic. There is no point of having laws if there aren't people to make sure those laws are followed which is what makes my branch the most important.

As you can see all the branches have many reasons why they could be the best branch. But, is there one branch that is stronger? The answer to this question is no. No branch is stronger than the other. All of the branches have an equal balance in power and depend on each other to get their own jobs done. Every branch checks on the other branches to make sure that one does not try to rise above the others and become stronger. Our government was created so that everything is fair and equal. This way the people of our country can have a fair and equal life, because the true power of government, comes from the people.

Gun Control In the U.S

Elizabeth Clark

The 2nd Amendment ensures that all men have the right to bear arms and that right cannot be infringed. Guns will never be completely taken away due to this amendment, but the question of whether guns can be restricted is embedded in the separation of powers that our government is built off of. Separate powers allows there to be more than one person deciding what is best for the country.

According to the Center for Disease Control in 2015, there were 36,252 deaths caused by firearms in the U.S, not including the estimated 84,997 injured by a firearm in 2015 (Mascia). The knee-jerk reaction to these statistics may be to get rid of guns, but that's hard to do in America. Our government keeps the American people from hurting themselves by making it so there is the most middle option made.

Congress would formulate a bill to regulate the selling and buying of guns in the U.S. If it started in the House then it would be debated by the subcommittee and then by the committee. If it passes all of that, it is argued on the floor of the House of Representatives. After it is voted on, it either dies or goes to the Senate subcommittee and the committee. Then, it is argued and voted on in the Senate.

If the bill is approved by at least half of the Legislative Branch, it will go to the president in the Executive Branch. With a stroke of a pen, the president decides whether or not the bill turns into a law. If it is not, then Congress has a chance to overrule their veto by two-thirds the House and Senate. Since it's a gun law, even if it passes the first two branches, it will inevitably be challenged in a federal court, which is where the Judicial Branch comes in.

The Judiciary's job is to interpret the laws and constitution. If they find that the bill is unconstitutional, the bill dies, but if it is found constitutional, the bill stays alive until challenged again. This whole process will take at least three years and this amount of time insulates the American people from themselves.

Political persuasion affects the bill, so Congress often has to make a bill that will agree to both political parties. This option will be the best for everyone in the long run, but doesn't always please people at first. This long duration gives the American people time to warm up to the bill and realize the middle option is better for the people than the left or right option.

The bill is changed some due to the separate powers, but often those changes are best for the people. The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches work together to ensure the bill is constitutional and agreeable. Overall, they work together to protect the United States from being controlled by knee-jerk reactions that would do more harm than good.

What does Hollywood know about our government?

By: Nick Cox

During the 2016 presidential election, at least 35 celebrities, some jokingly, said that they were going to move out of the country if Donald Trump was elected. Comedian Chelsea Handler said she had bought a house in another country. Samuel L. Jackson said he would move to Africa. Even Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg joked that she might move to New Zealand. This shows that they probably didn't take 7th grade U.S history because then they would have realized that was a pretty dumb thing to say. These statements are ridiculous and unnecessary because our government has a system of separation of powers and checks and balances that makes sure that no one single person can destroy our country.

In order to prevent one branch from exercising too much power, a system of checks and balances allows each branch to restrict the others. For example Congress has the power to write bills, the President has the right to veto these bills. However, Congress has the ability to override a veto by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote by both houses. The Supreme Court can also declare laws unconstitutional, thus checking the legislative branch.

This system of checks and balances is an amazing feat by the Founding Fathers. It is incredible because they had the foresight to create a system that would work more than two centuries later. The people shouldn't be concerned about a tyrant or a dictator because of the system of checks and balances.

But amazing as this system is there can be flaws in its implementation. This system requires members of Congress who are strong enough to speak out against the President. Some members of Congress do not want to check the President and instead support him so the political party stays strong and in power. This weakens the system of checks and balances because when the members of Congress don't check the President as they should, the President can get away with things he shouldn't be able to.

In the end it is up to the people to make sure the system works. We do this by electing leaders, whether the President or members of Congress, who will carry out the intent of our Founding Fathers. We have to believe in the leaders that we have chosen and that they will protect our democracy by fulfilling their role. Celebrities who hate President Trump don't need to leave the country. They just need to have faith that our system of checks and balances works.

A Chain System

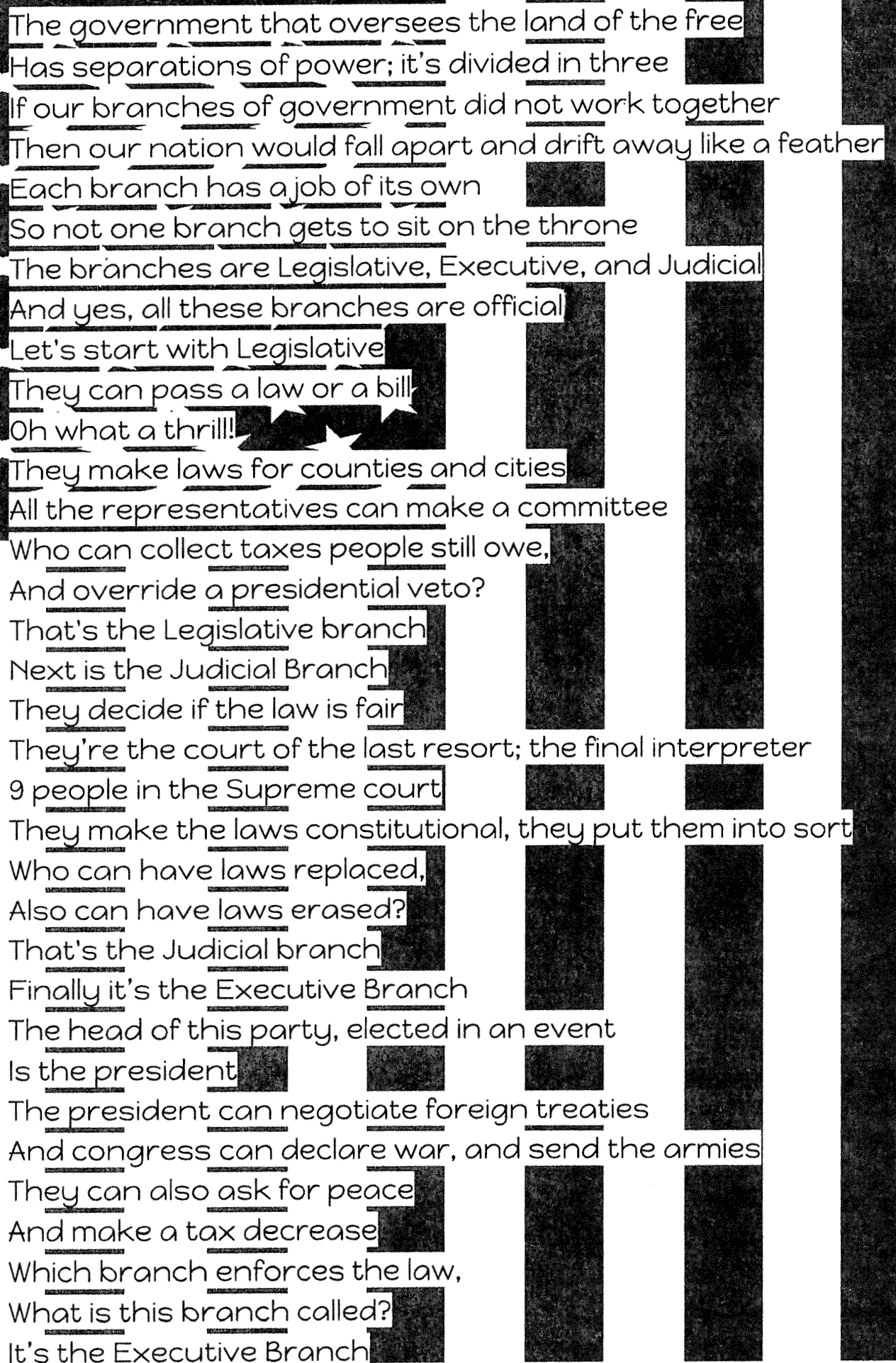
By: Chloe Bredice

Our government works something like a chain,
The power is divided.
Not one person is holding the reins,
In history this was decided.

Executive appoints the judges,
Legislative can veto bills.
the restriction never budges,
Their duty this fulfills.

Judicial can say "this is not right,"
Legislative can say "I don't like this one,"
The branches give a second sight
And after that the job is done.

Every branch has tethers
Because they're linked together.



The government that oversees the land of the free
Has separations of power; it's divided in three
If our branches of government did not work together
Then our nation would fall apart and drift away like a feather
Each branch has a job of its own
So not one branch gets to sit on the throne
The branches are Legislative, Executive, and Judicial
And yes, all these branches are official
Let's start with Legislative
They can pass a law or a bill
Oh what a thrill!
They make laws for counties and cities
All the representatives can make a committee
Who can collect taxes people still owe,
And override a presidential veto?
That's the Legislative branch
Next is the Judicial Branch
They decide if the law is fair
They're the court of the last resort; the final interpreter
9 people in the Supreme court
They make the laws constitutional, they put them into sort
Who can have laws replaced,
Also can have laws erased?
That's the Judicial branch
Finally it's the Executive Branch
The head of this party, elected in an event
Is the president
The president can negotiate foreign treaties
And congress can declare war, and send the armies
They can also ask for peace
And make a tax decrease
Which branch enforces the law,
What is this branch called?
It's the Executive Branch