

A complete NYS Social Studies Framework 4.4 Government unit covering levels and branches of government, citizenship, and how laws are made using student-friendly texts, visuals, activities, and assessments.

Up-Lifting Learning with Mrs. S-O

NEW YORK STATE SOCIAL STUDIES FRAMEWORK

4.4 GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

FULL UNIT BUNDLE

ELA Integrated

Bonus: Free Summative Assessment!

ASSESSMENTS

BUILD THINKING SKILLS

ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

Bonus File – FREE

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NYS SOCIAL STUDIES FRAMEWORK

4.4 GOVERNMENT

NEW YORK STATE GOVERNMENT UNIT ASSESSMENT

ELA INTEGRATED

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS

BUILD THINKING SKILLS

ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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• NYS SOCIAL STUDIES FRAMEWORK •

4.4 GOVERNMENT

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW YORK STATE

THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

4.4a

ELA INTEGRATED

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS | BUILD THINKING SKILLS | ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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4.4 GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

THREE BRANCHES, THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESS & THE COURTS

4.4a

ELA INTEGRATED

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS | BUILD THINKING SKILLS | ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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4.4 GOVERNMENT

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW YORK STATE

THREE BRANCHES, HOW LAWS ARE MADE & THE STATE SEAL

4.4b

ELA INTEGRATED

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS | BUILD THINKING SKILLS | ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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4.4 GOVERNMENT

THE GOVERNMENT IN NEW YORK STATE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4.4c

ELA INTEGRATED

LESSON, ORGANIZERS, TEXT & ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENTS | BUILD THINKING SKILLS | ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

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4.4 GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS

4.4d&e

ELA INTEGRATED

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT FOCUSED

ASSESSMENTS | BUILD THINKING SKILLS | ENGAGING ACTIVITIES

NO PREP • PRINT & GO • ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

Informational Text

Note Catchers/Organizers

The Government of New York State: The State Constitution

1777 NYS Constitution Draft Cover Page

A Plan for Government

The U.S. Constitution is the plan for our National, or Federal, government. It explains how our government is set up, how laws are made and more. Some responsibilities of governing belong to the Federal government, while others belong to the state governments.

New York State has a state constitution that is the plan for the state level of government. The New York State (NYS) Constitution was adopted in 1777. Part of the Constitution allows for it to be changed or rewritten. New York State had three constitutions. The one in place today was adopted in 1894.

The NYS constitution establishes the structure of the state government, just like the Federal government. It also explains about taxes, voting, housing, education, the state militia, conservation and canals.

The Capital

The business of government takes place in the capital. The New York State Capitol is in Albany. Why do you think Albany is the capital?

The Government of New York State: Three Branches

The Legislative Branch

The state legislature makes the laws for all of New York State. It has two houses, or parts – the Senate and the Assembly. People are elected to be senators or assemblymen.

New York State is divided into Senate and Assembly Districts. The districts can be seen on maps. All of the people in a district are represented by a Senator and an Assemblyman.

The Executive Branch

The governor is elected by the people of New York State to serve for four years. The governor signs or vetoes bills that are sent by the legislature. The governor also appoints people to lead many departments in the state government, prepares a budget to plan for spending the state's money collected from the tax payers and can pardon criminals.

The executive branch includes the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General and the State Comptroller, as well as the police.

The Judicial Branch

The Government of New York State: Three Branches

The Legislative Branch

The Executive Branch

The Judicial Branch

Levels of Government Sort

Makes sure our food & drugs are safe.

In charge of hospitals.

Selects presidential Electors

Airports

National Archive to store nation records.

Three Levels of Government: Responsibilities

Federal

State

Federal & State

Local

Three Levels of Government

National

State

Local

Our government has three levels. The largest level is the national government. The national government takes care of issues that affect the whole country.

The next level is the state government. It takes care of issues that affect the state.

The smallest level is the local government. Local government includes the county and town/village/city. Local government is responsible for issues that affect the town/village/city.

Level	Responsibility
National	
State	
Local	

List the three levels of government below, one in each box. Write what you know about that level in the box.

TICKET TO LEAVE



The Office of the President of the United States of America Responsibility Sorting Tags

Cut out the tags below. Use with the sorting cards.

Chief Executive



President Eisenhower gives a speech to Congress.

Commander in Chief



President Lincoln visits with troops during the Civil War.

Chief Diplomat



President Reagan meets with Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Political Party Leader



Republicans or Democrats

Head of State



President Bush presents an award.

Legislator



President Kennedy gives his State of the Union speech to Congress.

group of advisors), Supreme Court Justices and federal court judges (all with approval of the Senate).

Political Party Leader



The president is the head of his political party (Republican or Democrat) and helps shape their policy and ideas.

Head of State



President Bush presents an award.

The President represents our country. He hosts and attends state dinners, presents awards, and calls Olympic medalists to congratulate them.

Legislative Leader



President Kennedy gives his State of the Union speech to Congress.

The President cannot make laws, but he can suggest ideas to Congress. He can also veto laws he disagrees with.

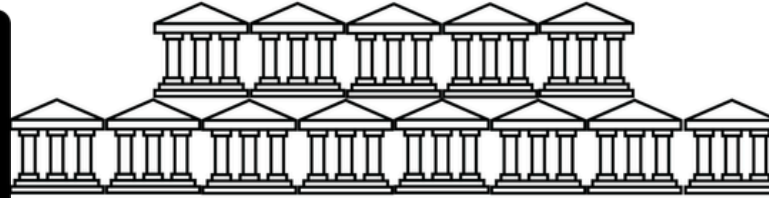
Supreme Court - The Highest Court in the Nation



If a person still isn't happy with the court's decision, she can ask the Supreme Court to review it. The Supreme Court only hears about 60-80 cases each year.



United States Courts of Appeal - 13 Total



If a person is not happy with the District Court's verdict, an appeal may be filed. If accepted, it will be heard in one of the U.S. Courts of Appeal.



The Government of the United States The Supreme Court

List the names of the nine Supreme Court Justices.

Supreme Court Justices are appointed for life so they can help make sure they are not influenced by political pressure. They have a Code of Conduct.

Look up this code of conduct at <https://www.sctsc.gov/> for Justices. November 1, 2018

The Government of the United States of America The Congress

The Senate



Your Senators:

The House of Representatives



Your Congressman:

How many representatives in the House does your state have? _____

To find your senator look here:
<https://www.senate.gov/states/statesmap.htm>

To find your congressman look here:
<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

Find the number House Representatives from your state here:
<https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2021/dec/2020-apportionment-map.html>

Choose one of your representatives and go his/her website. List some information you were able to find about about this representative below.

Name: _____

Print & Go

Sorts & Activities



certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness

The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

The texts above are from two of our founding documents. The quote from the Declaration of Independence tells what the founders believed about the rights people have. The quote from the Preamble tells what the founders believed about the job of the government is to protect those rights.

In the U.S. Constitution, our nation's plan for government, the founders set out the government they were working to create. The government is to establish domestic tranquility, and all the other responsibilities listed above.

The government makes laws to do all the things that are listed in these that are meant to "promote the general welfare" or "provide for the common good." The government also makes sure that the laws are enforced and that the laws are consistent with the constitution.

The government is made up of people. Most of them are elected, some have different jobs to do. Their jobs are all spelled out in our constitution.

In your own words, explain why we have government.



The Executive Branch



The Judicial Branch



The president picks advisors to help him.	The president runs for a person running for the Senate.	A bill passed by Congress.	the military branches.	different countries to help them come to peace terms.
The president gives the State of the Union Speech to Congress, outlining his goals and ideas for new laws.	The president enforces laws.	The president oversees the Food and Drug Administration.	The president prepares a national budget to submit to congress.	The president travels to foreign countries to talk about policy.
The president presents the Medal of Honor to a heroic veteran.	The president sends a naval ship to the Red Sea to protect ships there.	The president calls Olympic Gold Medalists to congratulate them.	The president meets with other members of his political party discuss what issues they will talk about with the public.	The president nominates someone for the Supreme Court (the Senate must approve this person).

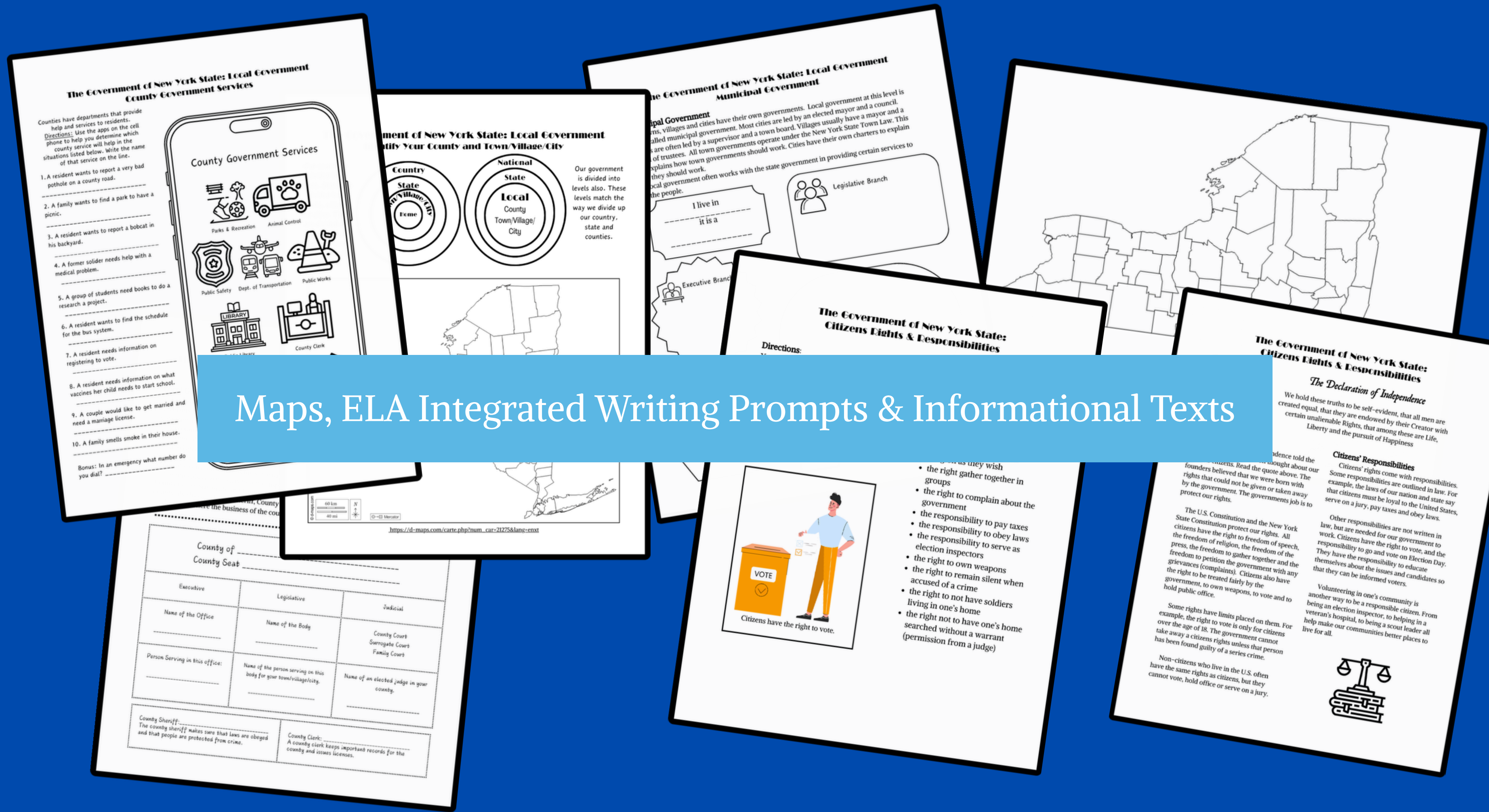
What is the main job of the Congress? _____



What is the highest court of U.S.A.? _____

How many Justices are there? _____

List two rules that Justices have listed in their Code of Conduct.



Maps, ELA Integrated Writing Prompts & Informational Texts

The Government of New York State: Local Government County Government Services

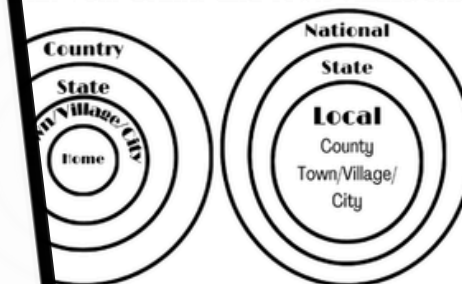
Counties have departments that provide help and services to residents. Directions: Use the apps on the cell phone to help you determine which county service will help in the situations listed below. Write the name of that service on the line.

1. A resident wants to report a very bad pothole on a county road.
2. A family wants to find a park to have a picnic.
3. A resident wants to report a bobcat in his backyard.
4. A former soldier needs help with a medical problem.
5. A group of students need books to do a research project.
6. A resident wants to find the schedule for the bus system.
7. A resident needs information on registering to vote.
8. A resident needs information on what vaccines her child needs to start school.
9. A couple would like to get married and need a marriage license.
10. A family smells smoke in their house.

Bonus: In an emergency what number do you dial?



Government of New York State: Local Government Identify Your County and Town/Village/City



Our government is divided into levels also. These levels match the way we divide up our country, state and counties.

The Government of New York State: Local Government Municipal Government

Towns, villages and cities have their own governments. Local government at this level is called municipal government. Most cities are led by an elected mayor and a council. Villages usually have a mayor and a council. All town governments operate under the New York State Town Law. This explains how town governments should work. Cities have their own charters to explain how they should work. Local government often works with the state government in providing certain services to the people.

I live in _____
it is a _____

Legislative Branch

Executive Branch

The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities

Directions:

The Government of New York State: Citizens Rights & Responsibilities

The Declaration of Independence

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness

Citizens' Responsibilities

Citizens' rights come with responsibilities. Some responsibilities are outlined in law. For example, the laws of our nation and state say that citizens must be loyal to the United States, serve on a jury, pay taxes and obey laws.

Other responsibilities are not written in law, but are needed for our government to work. Citizens have the right to vote, and the responsibility to go and vote on Election Day. They have the responsibility to educate themselves about the issues and candidates so that they can be informed voters.

Volunteering in one's community is another way to be a responsible citizen. From being an election inspector, to helping in a veteran's hospital, to being a scout leader all help make our communities better places to live for all.



Some rights have limits placed on them. For example, the right to vote is only for citizens over the age of 18. The government cannot take away a citizens rights unless that person has been found guilty of a series crime.

Non-citizens who live in the U.S. often have the same rights as citizens, but they cannot vote, hold office or serve on a jury.

- the right to gather together in groups
- the right to complain about the government
- the responsibility to pay taxes
- the responsibility to obey laws
- the responsibility to serve as election inspectors
- the right to own weapons
- the right to remain silent when accused of a crime
- the right to not have soldiers living in one's home
- the right not to have one's home searched without a warrant (permission from a judge)



County of _____
County Seat _____

Executive	Legislative	Judicial
Name of the Office _____	Name of the Body _____	County Court Surrogate Court Family Court
Person Serving in this office: _____	Name of the person serving on this body for your town/village/city: _____	Name of an elected judge in your county: _____

County Sheriff: _____
The county sheriff makes sure that laws are obeyed and that people are protected from crime.

County Clerk: _____
A county clerk keeps important records for the county and issues licenses.