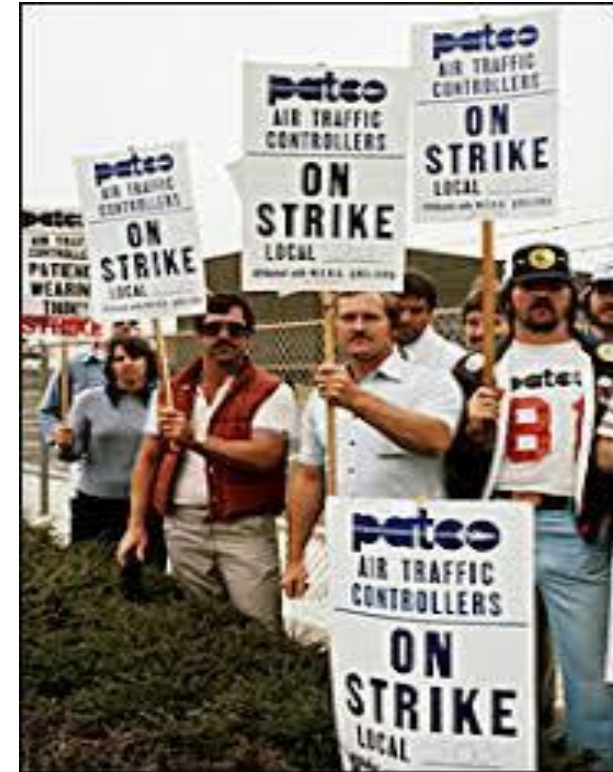


Civil Rights in the USA – 1865 - 1992



Seal of the National Women's Trade Union League. From *The Proceedings of the Second Biennial Convention of the National Women's Trade Union League* (1903).



THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

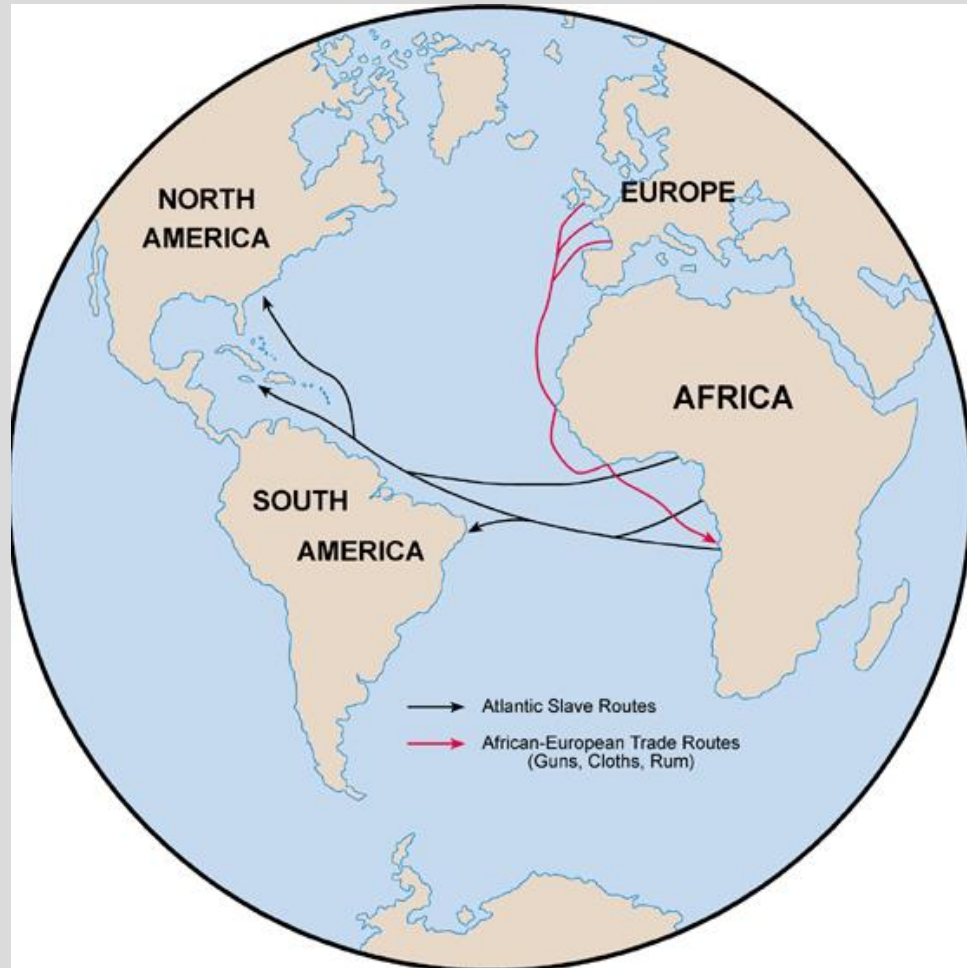
Connection

What do each of these words mean?

1. Constitution
2. Congress
3. States' Rights
4. Abolitionist
5. Succession



THE SLAVE TRADE



Questions:

What do you know about the slave trade?

What do you know about how the slaves were used in America?

How might slavery have been a cause of the Civil War?



*In the years leading to the Civil War,
many people in the south depended on the work of slaves.*

Slavery

The different states had varying policies concerning slavery.

In some areas of the country where religious groups such as the Quakers played a prominent role in political life, there was strong opposition to having slaves.

Rhode Island abolished slavery in 1774 and was soon followed by Vermont (1777), Pennsylvania (1780), Massachusetts (1781), New Hampshire (1783), Connecticut (1784), New York (1799) and New Jersey (1804).

The new states of Maine, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Kansas, Oregon, California and Illinois also did not have slaves.

The importation of slaves from other countries was banned in 1808.

However, the selling of slaves within the southern states continued.

TO BE SOLD on board the
 Ship *Bance Island*, on tuesday the 6th
 of *May* next, at *Afbley-Ferry*; a choice
 cargo of about 250 fine healthy

NEGROES,
 just arrived from the
 Windward & Rice Coast.
 —The utmost care has
 already been taken, and
 shall be continued, to keep them free from
 the least danger of being infected with the
SMALL-POX, no boat having been on
 board, and all other communication with
 people from *Charles-Town* prevented.

Austin, Laurens, & Appleby.

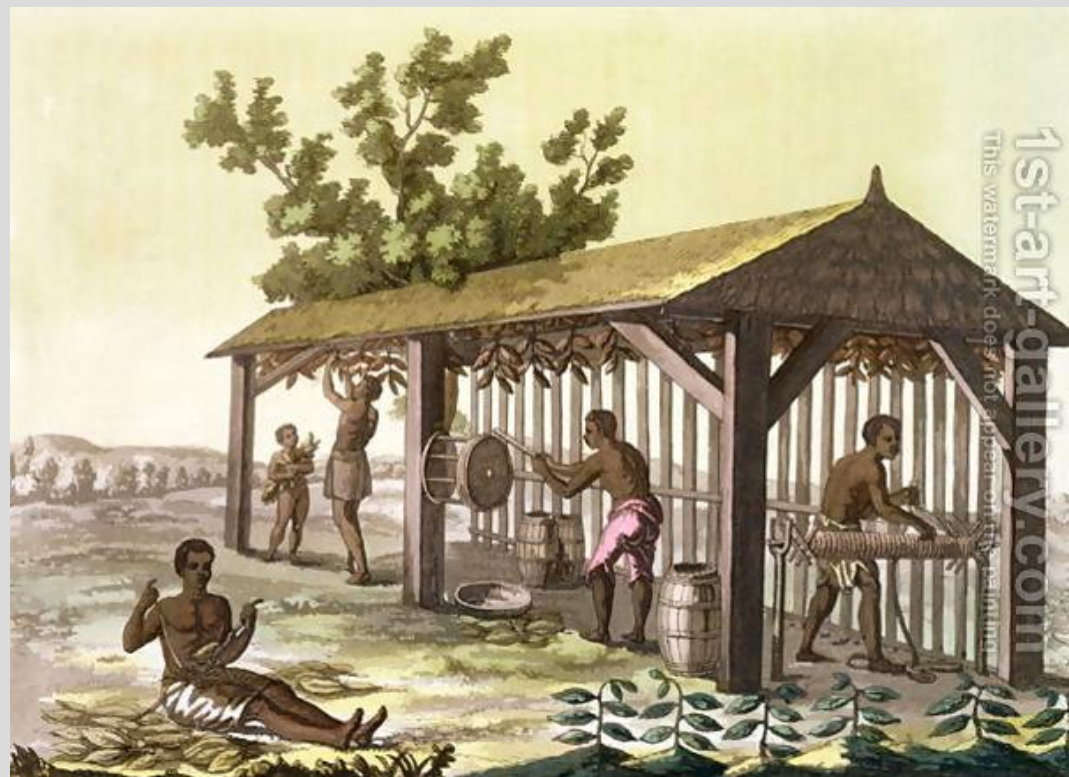
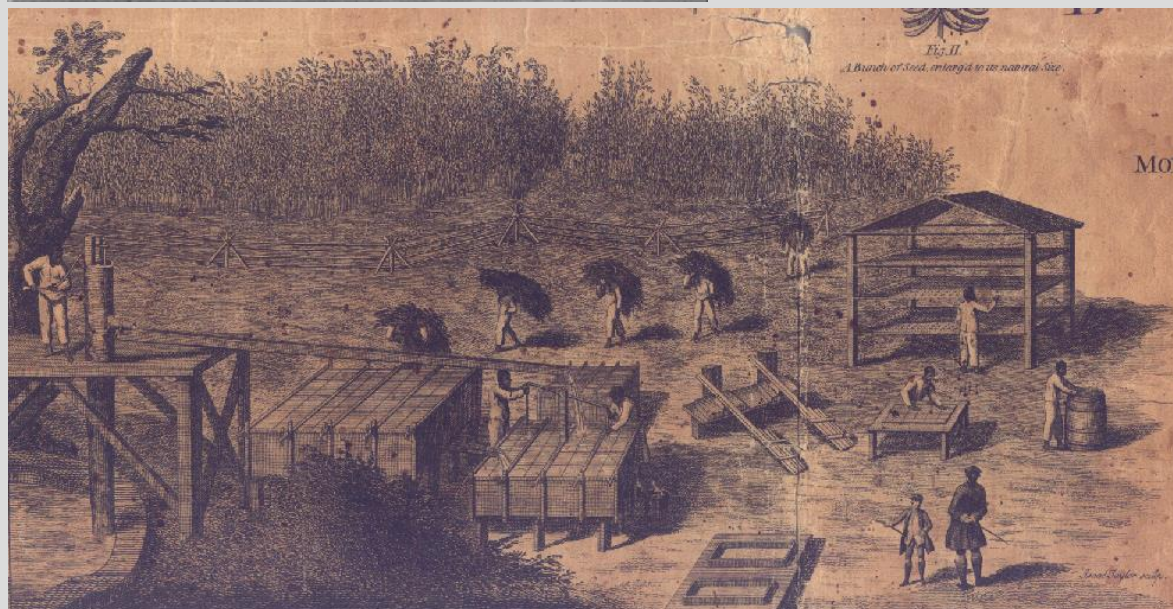
N. B. Full one Half of the above Negroes have had the
SMALL-POX in their own Country..

Re-examine your answers. Make changes if needed.

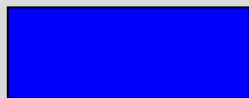
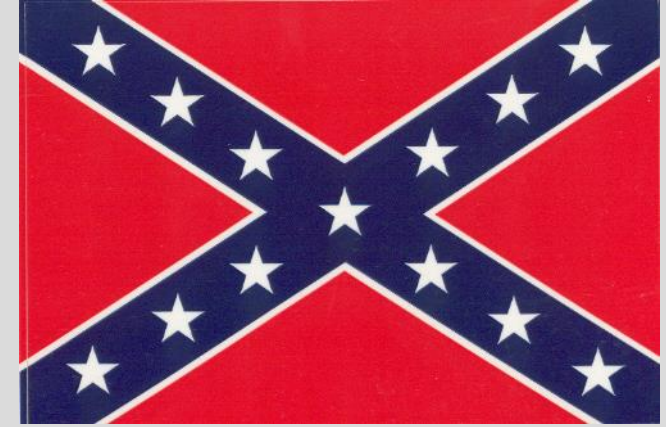
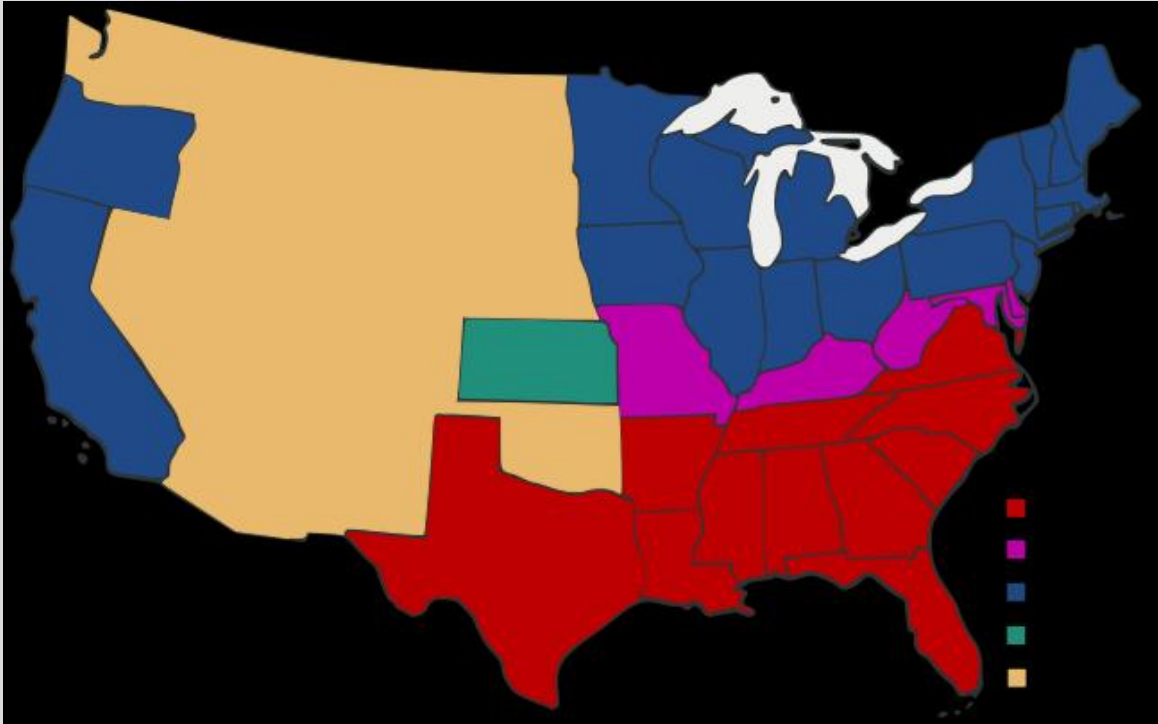
What do you know about the slave trade?

What do you know about how the slaves were used in America?

How might slavery have been a cause of the Civil War?



Union V Confederate



Union States – non slave owning



Confederate States – slave owning

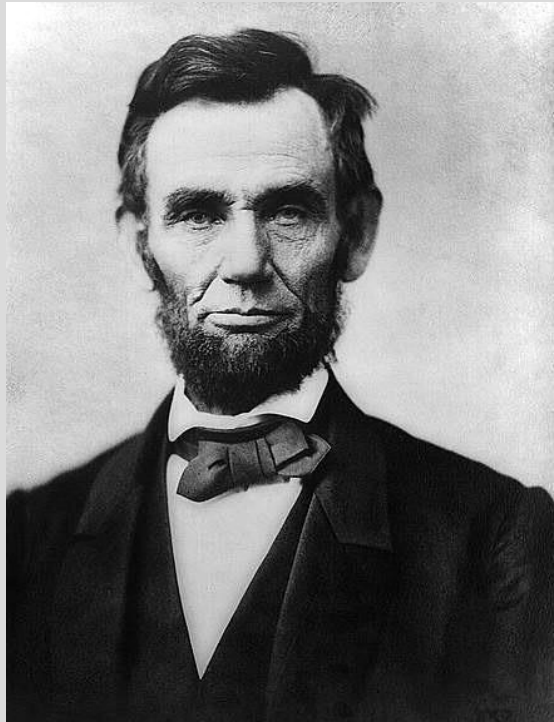
**Use the information on the next slide to answer the question:
Why did the Union and Confederate states go to war in America?**

North Verses South?

Conflict grew in the middle of 19th century between the northern and southern states over the issue of slavery.

The northern states were going through an industrial revolution and desperately needed more people to work in its factories. Industrialists in the North believed that, if freed, the slaves would leave the South and provide the labour they needed. The North also wanted tariffs on imported foreign goods to protect their new industries.

The South was still mainly agricultural and purchased a lot of goods from abroad and was therefore against import tariffs. The South also relied heavily on the slave labour on the plantations to carry out all of the manual labour



Abraham Lincoln

Use this and the next three slides to create a mind map about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

A man but not a brother

In the beginning he opposed the spread of slavery but not its outright abolition. He upset many in the South with this stance. The Republican called the end to slavery. Because we think it wrong, we propose a course of policy that shall deal with it as a wrong. We deal with it as with any other wrong, insofar as we can prevent it growing any larger, and so deal with it that in the run of time there may be some promise of an end to it."



Succession

- When elected President in 1860 seven states seceded from the Union: South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas. Representatives from these seven states quickly established a new political organization, the Confederate States of America.
- Lincoln tried to calm the storm by stating “to interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so.”

Civil War

- First battles were over Federal ports in the South. On 12th April, 1861, the Confederates demanded that Union surrender Fort Sumter in Charleston harbour
- Throughout the entire Civil War Lincoln insisted that the war was over preserving the Union and not slavery.
- Yet this changed when in 1863 he issued the Emancipation Proclamation

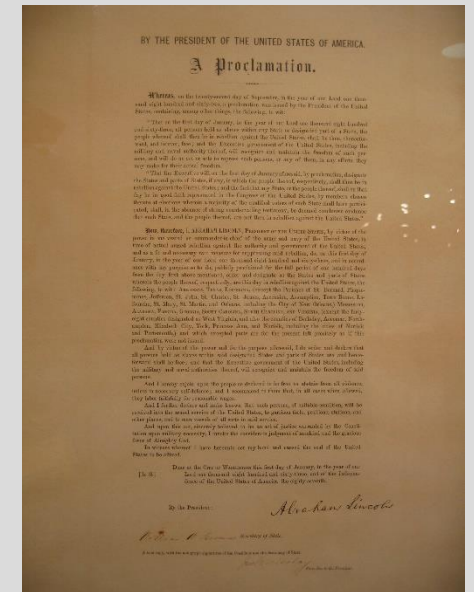


The Thirteen Amendment

The Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in the South. Slaves who were freed were stunned by the news, and overjoyed. They were no longer anyone's property – they were free. Many of them simply stopped working and walked away from their homes, heading North. Others stayed behind to work – for pay.

Lincoln knew that his Proclamation could be changed – for example, if another President came in who wanted slavery. That's why he pushed for the country to change the Constitution.

That's hard to do – many people have to agree to it. In 1865, the United States passed a Constitutional Amendment – a change to the basic law of our land. The change was called the Thirteenth Amendment, and it made slavery illegal in all of the United States for all time.



The American Government System

How does the American Political System Work?

Read the information on the American Constitution (next slide) and answer the questions below:

1. What is the purpose of the Constitution in America?
2. Why is the US Constitution unusual?
3. When did the American war of independence begin and end?
4. What does Thomas Jefferson's declaration of independence suggest about the future of the USA?
5. Who were the founding fathers?
6. What were the aims of the men who created the constitution?

The Bill of Rights:

7. What is the Bill of Rights and when did they come into force?
8. Why had there been criticism over the original constitution?
9. How did the Bill of Rights rectify this?

The Constitution

The United States Constitution was groundbreaking in numerous ways, establishing a new government, the likes of which the world had never seen. Indeed, the very features which made it unique have also contributed to its longevity. These features also define the framework of American government and politics, establishing the United States of America, its national government and outlining the relationships between that government, the people and the states.

The most significant features of the U.S. Constitution are the establishment of the rule of law, the creation of a federal system with a supreme national government, the separation of governmental powers into three branches that check and balance each other, its flexibility and the establishment of a republican form of government.

The Constitution is considered the supreme law of the land both because of its content and because its authority is derived from the people. The concepts and ideas of the Constitution are the "higher law" in the United States of America, things which a government cannot create or destroy. Among these concepts and ideas is the notion that the people are sovereign and that legitimate governments must be based on popular consent. Because the Constitution was ratified by the representatives of the people, it is a document, in both word and deed, created by and for "we the people."

While the Constitution is the supreme law of the land, most of the specific, day-to-day rules and regulations that bring order to American society are not included in the Constitution itself. These "ordinary" laws are creations of the Congress, state legislatures and city councils. But the notion that laws are more important than the opinions of individual people--even important people--applies to these laws as well. In America, no one is considered to be above the law. In fact, deliberately trying to avoid the law through deception or bribery are crimes in and of themselves. Even a president who violates the law can be held accountable for doing so.

CONSTITUTION



The
U.S.
Capitol



The White House



The
Supreme
Court

LEGISLATIVE

CONGRESS



HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES



SENATE

EXECUTIVE



PRESIDENT



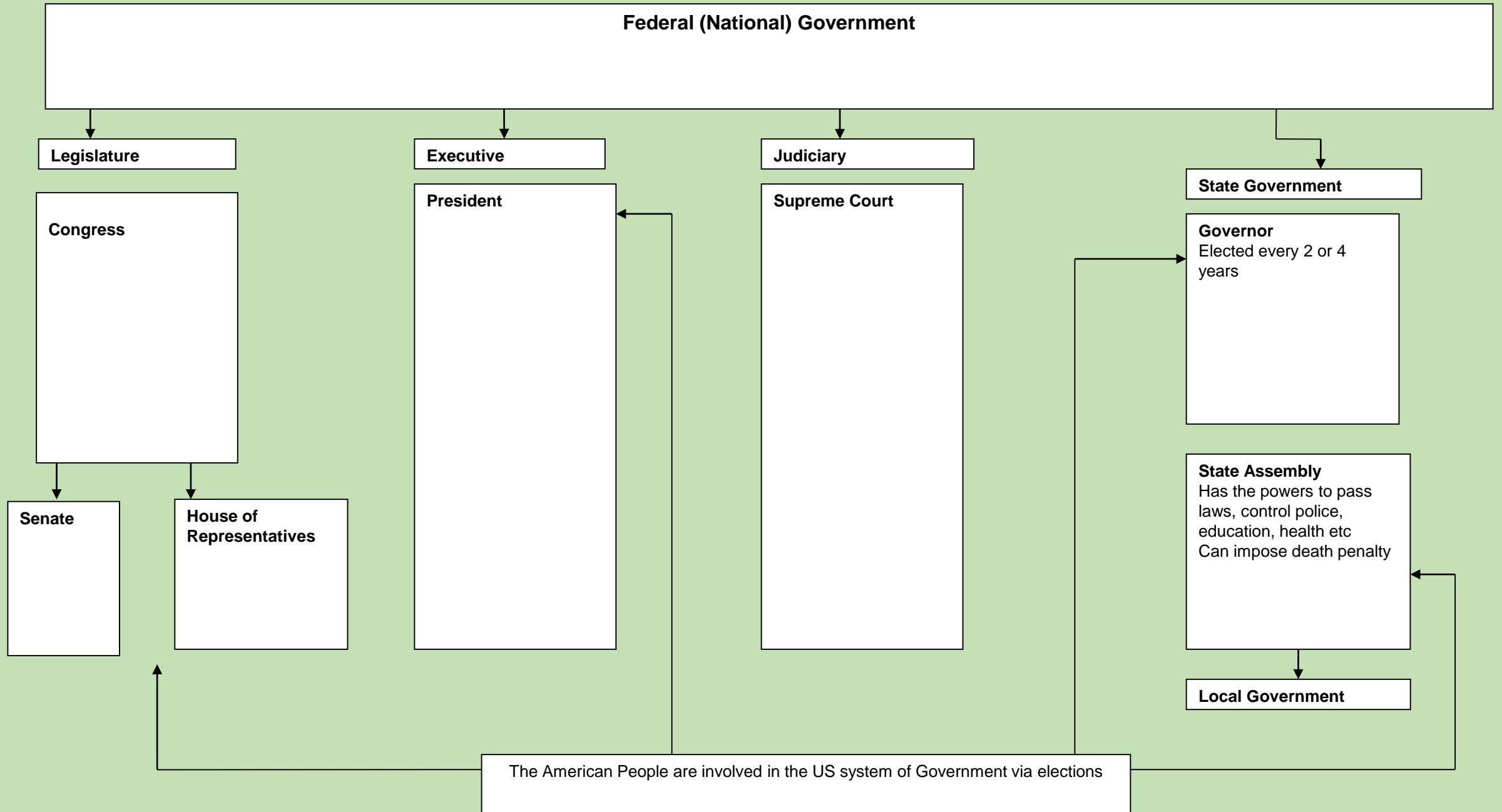
VICE
PRESIDENT

JUDICIAL



SUPREME COURT

Use the information on the next slides to complete this diagram.



The Executive Branch

The President of the United States of America, by virtue of formally granted constitutional powers, has several significant leadership roles. While these roles are varied and diverse, they can generally be divided into two large areas of authority and responsibility: domestic policy and foreign affairs. So distinct are the two realms of presidential activity and so different are the degrees of success within each that political scientists generally refer to these two subdivisions as the "two presidencies."

In the domestic arena, the President, as Chief Executive, has the formal constitutional authority to oversee the execution and implementation of the law. The President also has the ability to significantly influence the legislative and judicial branches. Through the exercise of these powers, the President can exert wide-spread and long-lasting influence on the domestic policies of the nation.

The Constitution establishes that the President of the United States shall be the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. As such, the President is the constitutional head of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, commissions all officers in the armed forces and appoints all high-ranking military leaders, such as the members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. More significantly, while the Congress has the authority to "Declare War," Presidents since Washington have "made war" without explicit congressional cooperation.

If a sitting President dies, becomes incapacitated, resigns or is impeached and removed from office, the Constitution provides for the Vice President to become the new President

The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of the United States of America is established in Article III of the Constitution. While the Constitution formally provides for a "Chief Justice" of the Court, it leaves the actual size of the Court up to the Congress. The Congress originally provided for five Associate Justices (for a total of six). The Congress periodically expanded and contracted the size of the Court from seven to nine to ten, back down to six and then back up to its current level of nine. (For practical purposes, the Court tends to function better when there are an odd number of Justices, thereby disallowing the possibility of tie votes.).

The Supreme Court is located just northeast of the United States Capitol. In fact, this building itself is closer to the Capitol than some congressional offices. The impressive building and location of the Court today belie its earlier lack of stature in the American political system. Its evolving role is a significant part of America's history.

The size of the Supreme Court is determined by the Congress. There are currently nine justices on the Court--a Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices. When a vacancy opens on the Court, the President nominates a new Justice who is then confirmed or rejected by the Senate. If confirmed, the nominee becomes a member of the Court and holds that office "during good behavior." In other words, short of committing an impeachable offense, Supreme Court Justices serve for life or until they voluntarily retire.

Congress

The United States Congress is the bicameral legislature of the federal government of the United States of America, consisting of two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives. Both senators and representatives are chosen through direct election.

Each of the 435 members of the House of Representatives represents a district and serves a two-year term. House seats are apportioned among the states by population. The 100 Senators serve staggered six-year terms. Each state has two senators, regardless of population. Every two years, approximately one-third of the Senate is elected at a time.

The United States Congress is the chief legislative or law-making body in the land. Through the laws it passes, it defines crimes and punishments, establishes levels of taxation and spending and creates the programs and policies that shape American government and politics.

The legislative process can be long, tedious, complex and frustrating. Indeed, it is much more difficult to pass a bill than it is to kill one. There are numerous times and places during the legislative process at which a bill can die. Only a very few survive to become law.

Article I of the Constitution vests all legislative power in the Congress. The House and Senate are equal partners in the legislative process (legislation cannot be enacted without the consent of both chambers); however, the Constitution grants each chamber some unique powers. The Senate is uniquely empowered to ratify treaties and to approve top presidential appointments. Revenue-raising bills must originate in the House of Representatives, which also has the sole power of impeachment, while the Senate has the sole power to try impeachment cases.

Civil Rights Individuals

- Create a fact-file about a key Civil Rights individual.
- Find out how they helped to fight for Civil Rights in America
- You can choose from:
 - Martin Luther King
 - Malcolm X
 - Philip Randolph
 - Booker T Washington
 - Marcus Garvey
 - Any of the American Presidents from 1860-1992