WHAT D’YA’ KNOW ABOUT DA’ CONSTITUTION?

DIRECTIONS: Answer the questions on your own by writing your answer on the lines provided. Your answers do not have to be in complete sentences.

1. How many parts is the U.S. Government separated into? 5 POINTS ________________

2. What are these parts called? 5 POINTS ________________________________

3. List the names of each of these parts 5 POINTS EACH: ____________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

4. For each name listed above now identify what the main job or power of each specific part of the government is 15 POINTS: ________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________

TURN OVER>>>>>>>>>>
5. What do we call the feature you just described in questions #3 and #4 above about the parts of government, their powers, and their jobs? 5 POINTS

________________________________________________________________________

6. What is the official group name or position (job title) that leads each part of government? 15 POINTS

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

7. What is the name of the system that is built into the Constitution to prevent any one part of the government from getting too powerful? 10 POINTS

________________________________________________________________________

8. EXPLAIN how a bill becomes a law. HINT: There are 6 basic steps. 18 POINTS

a. _______________________________________________

b. ______________________________________________________________________

c. ______________________________________________________________________

d. ______________________________________________________________________

e. ______________________________________________________________________

f. ______________________________________________________________________

9. America’s government is set-up in such a way that the state governments share power with the national government. What is this structure of sharing power between levels of government called? 5 POINTS

________________________________________________________________________

10. List one name of a current member of our U.S. Government OTHER THAN THE U.S PRESIDENT and identify which part of government he/she works for. 7 POINTS.

________________________________________________________________________
1. How many parts are there to the U.S. Government? **THREE**
2. What are these parts called? **BRANCHES**
3. List the names of each of these parts:
   a. **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**
   b. **EXECUTIVE BRANCH**
   c. **JUDICIAL BRANCH**
4. For each name listed above now identify what the main job or power of each specific part of the government is:
   a. **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH** – MAKE LAWS
   b. **EXECUTIVE BRANCH** – ENFORCE LAWS; CARRY OUT THE LAWS
   c. **JUDICIAL BRANCH** – JUDGE THE LAW IN REGARD TO THE CONSTITUTION; – JUDGING HOW THE LAW HAS BEEN APPLIED TO INDIVIDUALS
5. What do we call the feature you just described in questions #3 and #4 above about the parts of government, their powers, and their jobs? **SEPARATION OF POWERS**
6. What is the official group name or position (job title) that leads each part of government?
   a. **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH** – U.S. CONGRESS
   b. **EXECUTIVE BRANCH** – THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.
   c. **JUDICIAL BRANCH** – U.S. SUPREME COURT
7. What is the name of the system that is built into the Constitution to prevent any one part of the government from getting too powerful? **THE SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES**
8. Based on the term you listed on the line in #7 above - DESCRIBE an example of that system in action or working:

**HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW**

- CONGRESS WRITES A BILL AND VOTES ON IT. TO PASS THE BILL IT MUST GAIN AT LEAST 51% OF THE VOTE.
- THE BILL THEN GOES TO THE PRESIDENT.
  - THE PRESIDENT MAY SIGN THE BILL INTO LAW ... OR
  - VETO (VOTE AGAINST IT) THE BILL AND SEND IT BACK TO CONGRESS.
- CONGRESS MAY TAKE A RE-VOTE BUT NOW THEY NEED AT LEAST 66% OF THE CONGRESSMEN TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF IT.
  - IF CONGRESS GAINS AT LEAST 66% OF THE VOTE – THE BILL PASSES INTO LAW
- THE U.S. SUPREME COURT MAY DETERMINE THAT THE LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND STRIKE IT DOWN IF IT COMES BEFORE THEM IN A COURT CASE AT A LATER DATE.

9. America's government is set-up in such a way that the state governments share power with the national government. What is this structure of sharing power between levels of government called?

**FEDERALISM**

10. List one name of a current member of our U.S. Government OTHER THAN THE U.S. PRESIDENT and identify which part of government he/she works for. 5 POINTS.

**SENATE MAJORITY LEADER – HARRY REID**

**SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE – JOHN BOEHNER**

**CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT – JOHN ROBERTS**