

Icivics First Branch Legislative Answer Key

First Branch: Legislative

Name: _____

A. **Congressional Breakdowns.** What are the differences between the House and the Senate? Complete the graphic organizer using what you learned from the reading.

House of Representatives	Senate
Number of members	Number of members
Eligibility requirements (age, etc.)	Eligibility requirements (age, etc.)
Length of term	Length of term
Responsibilities	Responsibilities
Shared responsibilities	

B. **Shaping Congress.** Congress can be shaped by many factors. Some factors are constant, like the ones you identified in Activity A, while others change with the incoming class. Consider how the characteristics below might factor into how Congress works and what bills they decide to work on.

Members' term lengths	Age
Party membership	Diversity (characteristics that make people different like gender, race, etc.)

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Activity - Side A

ICivics First Branch: Legislative Answer Key - A Guide for Students

Are you struggling to navigate the complexities of the ICivics game, "First Branch: Legislative"? Feeling frustrated with unanswered questions and unsure of the correct answers? You're not alone! This comprehensive guide provides a detailed exploration of the ICivics First Branch Legislative game, offering insights and explanations to help you understand the legislative process and achieve a successful playthrough. We won't provide you with a simple "cheat sheet" of answers, but instead, we'll empower you with the knowledge to confidently answer the questions yourself. This post serves as a learning resource, explaining the concepts behind the game's challenges, thereby strengthening your understanding of the US legislative system.

Understanding the ICivics First Branch Game

Before diving into specifics, it's crucial to understand the game's objective. "First Branch: Legislative" from ICivics simulates the legislative process in the United States, challenging players to draft, debate, and pass bills. The game emphasizes critical thinking, compromise, and understanding the roles of different branches of government. It's designed to be engaging and educational, not just a test of memory.

Navigating the Bill Drafting Process

The heart of the ICivics First Branch Legislative game lies in successfully drafting bills. This involves several key steps:

Defining the Problem

The game starts by presenting you with a societal problem. Successfully addressing this problem requires careful consideration of its root causes and potential solutions. Don't rush this step. Thoroughly analyze the problem before moving to crafting a solution.

Crafting the Bill

Once you understand the problem, you must craft a bill that directly addresses it. This requires careful wording and consideration of potential consequences. Think about how your proposed solution will impact different groups and interests.

Securing Support

This isn't just about writing a good bill; it's about building consensus. The game challenges you to understand the political landscape and garner support from various political factions. Consider the perspectives of different interest groups and tailor your arguments accordingly.

Understanding Committee Hearings and Floor Debates

Once your bill is drafted, it proceeds through a series of committee hearings and floor debates. These stages are crucial for shaping the final bill and gauging its viability.

Committee Hearings

Committee hearings allow for a more detailed examination of your bill. Be prepared to defend your proposal against questions and amendments. Understanding the different viewpoints within the committee is essential for successful navigation.

Floor Debates

The floor debates are the final hurdle. Here, your persuasive skills are truly tested. You need to convince a majority of the representatives to vote in favor of your bill. This often requires compromise and negotiation.

Analyzing the Results and Learning from Mistakes

Even if your bill doesn't pass, don't see it as a failure. The ICivics game is designed to be a learning experience. Analyze the results, identify areas where your approach could have been improved, and apply these lessons to future attempts.

The Importance of Research and Critical Thinking

While this guide offers insights, it's not a shortcut to success. The most effective way to "win" at ICivics First Branch Legislative is to engage fully with the learning process. Research the legislative process in real life. Understanding the intricacies of how a bill becomes a law will significantly enhance your gameplay experience.

Beyond the Game: Applying Your Knowledge

The true value of ICivics First Branch Legislative lies in its application beyond the game itself. The skills you learn – critical thinking, problem-solving, and negotiation – are highly transferable to real-world scenarios. This game equips you with a practical understanding of the American political system.

Conclusion

While specific answers to the ICivics First Branch Legislative game are not provided here directly, this guide offers a comprehensive framework for understanding the game's mechanics and the underlying principles of the legislative process. By focusing on the core concepts and utilizing the strategies outlined above, you'll not only improve your gameplay but also deepen your understanding of American government. Remember, the learning process is the key!

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is there a single "correct" answer in the ICivics First Branch game? No. The game encourages multiple approaches to problem-solving and promotes critical thinking, so there isn't one definitive "right" answer.

2. How can I improve my chances of passing a bill? Focus on building consensus, understanding the viewpoints of different interest groups, and crafting a well-reasoned and comprehensive bill that directly addresses the problem.
3. What if my bill fails? Don't be discouraged. Analyze why it failed, learn from your mistakes, and try again. This is a crucial part of the learning process.
4. Where can I find more information about the US legislative process? Research reputable sources such as the official websites of the US Congress, educational websites, and textbooks on American government.
5. Can I play ICivics First Branch offline? ICivics games usually require an internet connection to play. Check the game's specific requirements on the ICivics website.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Fault Lines in the Constitution Cynthia Levinson, Sanford Levinson, 2017-09-01 Many of the political issues we struggle with today have their roots in the US Constitution. Husband-and-wife team Cynthia and Sanford Levinson take readers back to the creation of this historic document and discuss how contemporary problems were first introduced—then they offer possible solutions. Think Electoral College, gerrymandering, even the Senate. Many of us take these features in our system for granted. But they came about through haggling in an overheated room in 1787, and we're still experiencing the ramifications. Each chapter in this timely and thoughtful exploration of the Constitution's creation begins with a story—all but one of them true—that connects directly back to a section of the document that forms the basis of our society and government. From the award-winning team, Cynthia Levinson, children's book author, and Sanford Levinson, constitutional law scholar, *Fault Lines in the Constitution* will encourage exploration and discussion from young and old readers alike.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Nine and Counting Barbara Boxer, Susan Collins, Dianne Feinstein, The USA Girl Scouts of, Whitney Catherine, 2001-07-24 The Women of the United States Senate have forever changed the political landscape. Their backgrounds, personal styles, and political ideals may be as diverse as the nation they serve. Yet they share a commonality that runs deeper than politics or geography -- they desire to give a voice to all their constituents while serving as role models for women young and old. Once every month, these distinguished women for an informal dinner to share their knowledge, their hearts, and a good meal. Leaving behind partisanship and rhetoric, they discuss and debate the issues, both political and personal, affecting their lives. And following the 2000 election of four women to the Senate, the table is now set for thirteen. Weaving together their individual stories of triumph, adversity, adaptability, and leadership, *Nine and Counting* gives voice to these charismatic women as never before, offering a rare, insider's glimpse into Washington and sending the powerful message that membership in the world's most exclusive club is open to every woman in America.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: The North Carolina State Constitution John V. Orth, Paul M. Newby, 2013-04-11 North Carolina's state constitution charts the evolution over two centuries of a modern representative democracy. In *The North Carolina State Constitution*, John V. Orth and Paul M. Newby provide an outstanding constitutional and historical account of the state's governing charter. In addition to an overview of North Carolina's constitutional history, it provides an in-depth, section-by-section analysis of the entire constitution, detailing the many significant changes that have been made since its initial drafting. This treatment, along with a table of cases, index, and bibliography provides an unsurpassed reference guide for students, scholars, and practitioners of North Carolina's constitution. Co-authored by Paul M. Newby, a sitting justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, the second edition includes significant constitutional amendments adopted since the date of the first edition. Almost every article was affected by the changes. Some

were minor—such as the lengthening the term of magistrates—and some were more significant, such as spelling out the rights of victims of crimes. One was obviously major: granting the governor the power to veto legislation—making North Carolina's governor the last American governor to be given that power. In addition, the North Carolina Supreme Court has continued the seemingly never-ending process of constitutional interpretation. Some judicial decisions answered fairly routine questions about the powers of office, such as the governor's clemency power. Others were politically contentious, such as deciding the constitutional constraints on legislative redistricting. And one continues to have momentous consequences for public education, recognizing the state's constitutional duty to provide every school child in North Carolina with a sound, basic education. The Oxford Commentaries on the State Constitutions of the United States is an important series that reflects a renewed international interest in constitutional history and provides expert insight into each of the 50 state constitutions. Each volume in this innovative series contains a historical overview of the state's constitutional development, a section-by-section analysis of its current constitution, and a comprehensive guide to further research. Under the expert editorship of Professor G. Alan Tarr, Director of the Center on State Constitutional Studies at Rutgers University, this series provides essential reference tools for understanding state constitutional law. Books in the series can be purchased individually or as part of a complete set, giving readers unmatched access to these important political documents.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Graphic Novel Cynthia Levinson, Sanford Levinson, 2020-09-22 The latest volume in our World Citizen Comics graphic novel series, *Fault Lines in the Constitution* teaches readers how this founding document continues to shape modern American society. In 1787, after 116 days of heated debates and bitter arguments, the United States Constitution was created. This imperfect document set forth America's guiding principles, but it would also introduce some of today's most contentious political issues—from gerrymandering, to the Electoral College, to presidential impeachment. With colorful art, compelling discourse, and true stories from America's past and present, *Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Graphic Novel* sheds light on how today's political struggles have their origins in the decisions of our Founding Fathers. Children's book author Cynthia Levinson, constitutional law scholar Sanford Levinson, and artist Ally Shwed deftly illustrate how contemporary problems arose from this founding document—and then they offer possible solutions. This book is part of the World Citizen Comics series, a bold line of civics-focused graphic novels that equip readers to be engaged citizens and informed voters.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Freedom Walkers Russell Freedman, 2009-02-28 A riveting account of the civil rights boycott that changed history by the foremost author of history for young people. Now a classic, Freedman's book tells the dramatic stories of the heroes who stood up against segregation and Jim Crow laws in 1950s Alabama. Full of eyewitness reports, iconic photographs from the era, and crucial primary sources, this work brings history to life for modern readers. This engaging look at one of the best-known events of the American Civil Rights Movement feels immediate and relevant, reminding readers that the Boycott is not distant history, but one step in a fight for equality that continues today. Freedman focuses not only on well-known figures like Claudette Colvin, Rosa Parks, and Martin Luther King Jr., but on the numerous people who contributed by organizing carpools, joining protests, supporting legal defense efforts, and more. He showcases an often-overlooked side of activism and protest-- the importance of cooperation and engagement, and the ways in which ordinary people can stand up for their beliefs and bring about meaningful change in the world around them. *Freedom Walkers* has long been a library and classroom staple, but as interest in the history of protest and the Civil Rights Movement grows, it's a perfect introduction for anyone looking to learn more about the past-- and an inspiration to take action and shape the future. Recipient of an Orbis Pictus Honor, the Flora Stieglitz Straus Award, and the Jane Addams Peace Association Honor Book Award, *Freedom Walkers* received five starred reviews. A map, source notes, full bibliography, and other backmatter is included.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: The Second Founding: How the Civil War and

Reconstruction Remade the Constitution Eric Foner, 2019-09-17 “Gripping and essential.”—Jesse Wegman, New York Times An authoritative history by the preeminent scholar of the Civil War era, *The Second Founding* traces the arc of the three foundational Reconstruction amendments from their origins in antebellum activism and adoption amidst intense postwar politics to their virtual nullification by narrow Supreme Court decisions and Jim Crow state laws. Today these amendments remain strong tools for achieving the American ideal of equality, if only we will take them up.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Civics Flash Cards for the Naturalization Test , 2012 USCIS Civics flash cards: These Civics flash card will help immigrants learn about US history and government while preparing for naturalization test. These flash cards can also be used in the classroom as an instruction tool for citizenship preparation. Important note: on the naturalization test, some answers may change because of elections or appointments. Applicants must be aware of the most current answers to these questions. Applicants must answer these questions with the name of the official who is serving at the time of his or her eligibility interview with the USCIS. The USCIS officer will not accept an incorrect answer.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Federalism and the Tug of War Within Erin Ryan, 2011 As environmental, national security, and technological challenges push American law into ever more inter-jurisdictional territory, this book proposes a model of 'Balanced Federalism' that mediates between competing federalism values and provides greater guidance for regulatory decision-making.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: **Democracy and Philanthropy** Eric John Abrahamson, 2013-10

icivics first branch legislative answer key: **Truth Decay** Kavanagh, Michael D. Rich, 2018-01-16 Political and civil discourse in the United States is characterized by “Truth Decay,” defined as increasing disagreement about facts, a blurring of the line between opinion and fact, an increase in the relative volume of opinion compared with fact, and lowered trust in formerly respected sources of factual information. This report explores the causes and wide-ranging consequences of Truth Decay and proposes strategies for further action.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: **What Does the President Do?** Amanda Miller, 2009 Do you know who leads our country? The President of the United States has a very big job. He helps make laws and works to keep our country safe. Read this book to learn more about what the President does. Book jacket.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: **The Character of Curriculum Studies** W. Pinar, 2011-12-19 Assembles essays addressing the recurring question of the 'subject,' understood both as human person and school subject, thereby elaborating the subjective and disciplinary character of curriculum studies.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: **American Government 3e** Glen Krutz, Sylvie Waskiewicz, 2023-05-12 Black & white print. *American Government 3e* aligns with the topics and objectives of many government courses. Faculty involved in the project have endeavored to make government workings, issues, debates, and impacts meaningful and memorable to students while maintaining the conceptual coverage and rigor inherent in the subject. With this objective in mind, the content of this textbook has been developed and arranged to provide a logical progression from the fundamental principles of institutional design at the founding, to avenues of political participation, to thorough coverage of the political structures that constitute American government. The book builds upon what students have already learned and emphasizes connections between topics as well as between theory and applications. The goal of each section is to enable students not just to recognize concepts, but to work with them in ways that will be useful in later courses, future careers, and as engaged citizens. In order to help students understand the ways that government, society, and individuals interconnect, the revision includes more examples and details regarding the lived experiences of diverse groups and communities within the United States. The authors and reviewers sought to strike a balance between confronting the negative and harmful elements of

American government, history, and current events, while demonstrating progress in overcoming them. In doing so, the approach seeks to provide instructors with ample opportunities to open discussions, extend and update concepts, and drive deeper engagement.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *United States Code* United States, 2013 The United States Code is the official codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States of America. The Code was first published in 1926, and a new edition of the code has been published every six years since 1934. The 2012 edition of the Code incorporates laws enacted through the One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Second Session, the last of which was signed by the President on January 15, 2013. It does not include laws of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, First Session, enacted between January 2, 2013, the date it convened, and January 15, 2013. By statutory authority this edition may be cited U.S.C. 2012 ed. As adopted in 1926, the Code established prima facie the general and permanent laws of the United States. The underlying statutes reprinted in the Code remained in effect and controlled over the Code in case of any discrepancy. In 1947, Congress began enacting individual titles of the Code into positive law. When a title is enacted into positive law, the underlying statutes are repealed and the title then becomes legal evidence of the law. Currently, 26 of the 51 titles in the Code have been so enacted. These are identified in the table of titles near the beginning of each volume. The Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives continues to prepare legislation pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 285b to enact the remainder of the Code, on a title-by-title basis, into positive law. The 2012 edition of the Code was prepared and published under the supervision of Ralph V. Seep, Law Revision Counsel. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the contributions by all who helped in this work, particularly the staffs of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel and the Government Printing Office--Preface.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *EAccess to Justice* Karim Benyekhlef, Jacquelyn Burkell, Jane Bailey, Fabien G  linas, 2016-10-14 How can we leverage digitization to improve access to justice without compromising the fundamental principles of our legal system? eAccess to Justice describes the challenges that come with the integration of technology into our courtrooms, and explores lessons learned from digitization projects from around the world.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Positive Psychology in the Elementary School Classroom Patty O'Grady, 2013-03-11 Use the neuroscience of emotional learning to transform your teaching. How can the latest breakthroughs in the neuroscience of emotional learning transform the classroom? How can teachers use the principles and practices of positive psychology to ensure optimal 21st-century learning experiences for all children? Patty O'Grady answers those questions. *Positive Psychology in the Elementary School Classroom* presents the basics of positive psychology to educators and provides interactive resources to enrich teachers' proficiency when using positive psychology in the classroom. O'Grady underlines the importance of teaching the whole child: encouraging social awareness and positive relationships, fostering self-motivation, and emphasizing social and emotional learning. Through the use of positive psychology in the classroom, children can learn to be more emotionally aware of their own and others' feelings, use their strengths to engage academically and socially, pursue meaningful lives, and accomplish their personal goals. The book begins with Martin Seligman's positive psychology principles, and continues into an overview of affective learning, including its philosophical and psychological roots, from finding the "golden mean" of emotional regulation to finding a child's potencies and "golden self." O'Grady connects the core concepts of educational neuroscience to the principles of positive psychology, explaining how feelings permeate the brain, affecting children's thoughts and actions; how insular neurons make us feel empathy and help us learn by observation; and how the frontal cortex is the hall monitor of the brain. The book is full of practical examples and interactive resources that invite every educator to create a positive psychology classroom, where children can flourish and reach their full potential.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *The Political Classroom* Diana E. Hess, Paula McAvoy, 2014-11-13 WINNER 2016 Grawemeyer Award in Education Helping students develop their ability to deliberate political questions is an essential component of democratic education, but introducing political issues into the classroom is pedagogically challenging and raises ethical

dilemmas for teachers. Diana E. Hess and Paula McAvoy argue that teachers will make better professional judgments about these issues if they aim toward creating political classrooms, which engage students in deliberations about questions that ask, How should we live together? Based on the findings from a large, mixed-method study about discussions of political issues within high school classrooms, *The Political Classroom* presents in-depth and engaging cases of teacher practice. Paying particular attention to how political polarization and social inequality affect classroom dynamics, Hess and McAvoy promote a coherent plan for providing students with a nonpartisan political education and for improving the quality of classroom deliberations.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *The United States Constitution: What It Says, What It Means* Founding Fathers, 2005-09

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *No Citizen Left Behind* Meira Levinson, 2012-04-23 While teaching at an all-Black middle school in Atlanta, Meira Levinson realized that students' individual self-improvement would not necessarily enable them to overcome their profound marginalization within American society. This is because of a civic empowerment gap that is as shameful and antidemocratic as the academic achievement gap targeted by No Child Left Behind. *No Citizen Left Behind* argues that students must be taught how to upend and reshape power relationships directly, through political and civic action. Drawing on political theory, empirical research, and her own on-the-ground experience, Levinson shows how de facto segregated urban schools can and must be at the center of this struggle. Recovering the civic purposes of public schools will take more than tweaking the curriculum. Levinson calls on schools to remake civic education. Schools should teach collective action, openly discuss the racialized dimensions of citizenship, and provoke students by engaging their passions against contemporary injustices. Students must also have frequent opportunities to take civic and political action, including within the school itself. To build a truly egalitarian society, we must reject myths of civic sameness and empower all young people to raise their diverse voices. Levinson's account challenges not just educators but all who care about justice, diversity, or democracy.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States* Charles Austin Beard, 1921

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *The Nine* Jeffrey Toobin, 2008-09-30 Acclaimed journalist Jeffrey Toobin takes us into the chambers of the most important—and secret—legal body in our country, the Supreme Court, revealing the complex dynamic among the nine people who decide the law of the land. An institution at a moment of transition, the Court now stands at a crucial point, with major changes in store on such issues as abortion, civil rights, and church-state relations. Based on exclusive interviews with the justices and with a keen sense of the Court's history and the trajectory of its future, Jeffrey Toobin creates in *The Nine* a riveting story of one of the most important forces in American life today.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *Rethinking Social Studies Teacher Education in the Twenty-First Century* Alicia R. Crowe, Alexander Cuenca, 2015-11-26 In this volume teacher educators explicitly and implicitly share their visions for the purposes, experiences, and commitments necessary for social studies teacher preparation in the twenty-first century. It is divided into six sections where authors reconsider: 1) purposes, 2) course curricula, 3) collaboration with on-campus partners, 4) field experiences, 5) community connections, and 6) research and the political nature of social studies teacher education. The chapters within each section provide critical insights for social studies researchers, teacher educators, and teacher education programs. Whether readers begin to question what are we teaching social studies teachers for, who should we collaborate with to advance teacher learning, or how should we engage in the politics of teacher education, this volume leads us to consider what ideas, structures, and connections are most worthwhile for social studies teacher education in the twenty-first century to pursue.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *First* Evan Thomas, 2019-03-19 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The intimate, inspiring, and authoritative biography of Sandra Day O'Connor, America's first female Supreme Court justice, drawing on exclusive interviews and

first-time access to Justice O'Connor's archives—as seen on PBS's American Experience “She’s a hero for our time, and this is the biography for our time.”—Walter Isaacson Finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize • Named One of the Best Books of the Year by NPR and The Washington Post She was born in 1930 in El Paso and grew up on a cattle ranch in Arizona. At a time when women were expected to be homemakers, she set her sights on Stanford University. When she graduated near the top of her law school class in 1952, no firm would even interview her. But Sandra Day O'Connor's story is that of a woman who repeatedly shattered glass ceilings—doing so with a blend of grace, wisdom, humor, understatement, and cowgirl toughness. She became the first ever female majority leader of a state senate. As a judge on the Arizona Court of Appeals, she stood up to corrupt lawyers and humanized the law. When she arrived at the United States Supreme Court, appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1981, she began a quarter-century tenure on the Court, hearing cases that ultimately shaped American law. Diagnosed with cancer at fifty-eight, and caring for a husband with Alzheimer's, O'Connor endured every difficulty with grit and poise. Women and men who want to be leaders and be first in their own lives—who want to learn when to walk away and when to stand their ground—will be inspired by O'Connor's example. This is a remarkably vivid and personal portrait of a woman who loved her family, who believed in serving her country, and who, when she became the most powerful woman in America, built a bridge forward for all women. Praise for First “Cinematic . . . poignant . . . illuminating and eminently readable . . . First gives us a real sense of Sandra Day O'Connor the human being. . . . Thomas gives O'Connor the credit she deserves.”—The Washington Post “[A] fascinating and revelatory biography . . . a richly detailed picture of [O'Connor's] personal and professional life . . . Evan Thomas's book is not just a biography of a remarkable woman, but an elegy for a worldview that, in law as well as politics, has disappeared from the nation's main stages.”—The New York Times Book Review

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *People's Science* Ruha Benjamin, 2013-05-22 “An engaging, insightful, and challenging call to examine both the rhetoric and reality of innovation and inclusion in science and science policy.” —Daniel R. Morrison, *American Journal of Sociology* Stem cell research has sparked controversy and heated debate since the first human stem cell line was derived in 1998. Too frequently these debates devolve to simple judgments—good or bad, life-saving medicine or bioethical nightmare, symbol of human ingenuity or our fall from grace—ignoring the people affected. With this book, Ruha Benjamin moves the terms of debate to focus on the shifting relationship between science and society, on the people who benefit—or don't—from regenerative medicine and what this says about our democratic commitments to an equitable society. *People's Science* uncovers the tension between scientific innovation and social equality, taking the reader inside California's 2004 stem cell initiative, the first of many state referenda on scientific research, to consider the lives it has affected. Benjamin reveals the promise and peril of public participation in science, illuminating issues of race, disability, gender, and socio-economic class that serve to define certain groups as more or less deserving in their political aims and biomedical hopes. Ultimately, Ruha Benjamin argues that without more deliberate consideration about how scientific initiatives can and should reflect a wider array of social concerns, stem cell research—from African Americans' struggle with sickle cell treatment to the recruitment of women as tissue donors—still risks excluding many. Even as regenerative medicine is described as a participatory science for the people, Benjamin asks us to consider if “the people” ultimately reflects our democratic ideals.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *The European Union* Kristin Archick, 2019-09-15 The European Union (EU) is a political and economic partnership that represents a unique form of cooperation among sovereign countries. The EU is the latest stage in a process of integration begun after World War II, initially by six Western European countries, to foster interdependence and make another war in Europe unthinkable. The EU currently consists of 28 member states, including most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and has helped to promote peace, stability, and economic prosperity throughout the European continent. The EU has been built through a series of binding treaties. Over the years, EU member states have sought to harmonize laws and adopt common policies on an increasing number of economic, social, and

political issues. EU member states share a customs union; a single market in which capital, goods, services, and people move freely; a common trade policy; and a common agricultural policy. Nineteen EU member states use a common currency (the euro), and 22 member states participate in the Schengen area of free movement in which internal border controls have been eliminated. In addition, the EU has been developing a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), which includes a Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), and pursuing cooperation in the area of Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) to forge common internal security measures. Member states work together through several EU institutions to set policy and to promote their collective interests. In recent years, however, the EU has faced a number of internal and external crises. Most notably, in a June 2016 public referendum, voters in the United Kingdom (UK) backed leaving the EU. The pending British exit from the EU (dubbed Brexit) comes amid multiple other challenges, including the rise of populist and to some extent anti-EU political parties, concerns about democratic backsliding in some member states (including Poland and Hungary), ongoing pressures related to migration, a heightened terrorism threat, and a resurgent Russia. The United States has supported the European integration project since its inception in the 1950s as a means to prevent another catastrophic conflict on the European continent and foster democratic allies and strong trading partners. Today, the United States and the EU have a dynamic political partnership and share a huge trade and investment relationship. Despite periodic tensions in U.S.-EU relations over the years, U.S. and EU policymakers alike have viewed the partnership as serving both sides' overall strategic and economic interests. EU leaders are anxious about the Trump Administration's commitment to the EU project, the transatlantic partnership, and an open international trading system-especially amid the Administration's imposition of tariffs on EU steel and aluminum products since 2018 and the prospects of future auto tariffs. In July 2018, President Trump reportedly called the EU a foe on trade but the Administration subsequently sought to de-escalate U.S.-EU tensions and signaled its intention to launch new U.S.-EU trade negotiations. Concerns also linger in Brussels about the implications of the Trump Administration's America First foreign policy and its positions on a range of international issues, including Russia, Iran, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, climate change, and the role of multilateral institutions. This report serves as a primer on the EU. Despite the UK's vote to leave the EU, the UK remains a full member of the bloc until it officially exits the EU (which is scheduled to occur by October 31, 2019, but may be further delayed). As such, this report largely addresses the EU and its institutions as they currently exist. It also briefly describes U.S.-EU political and economic relations that may be of interest.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: *American Democracy Now* Brigid Harrison, Michelle Deardorff, Jean Harris, 2012-12-26 Increase student performance, student engagement, and critical analysis skills with the third edition of *American Democracy Now*. This program is available with *GinA*, an educational game in which students learn American Government by doing, as well as McGraw-Hill's *LearnSmart*, an adaptive questioning tool proven to increase content comprehension and improve student results. Unique to this program, *American Democracy Now 3e* is a student-centered text focused on student performance. This contemporary approach and design, coupled with market-leading digital products, make this an ideal solution to course goals.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Miracle At Philadelphia Catherine Drinker Bowen, 1986-09-30 A classic history of the Federal Convention at Philadelphia in 1787, the stormy, dramatic session that produced the most enduring of political documents: the Constitution of the United States. From Catherine Drinker Bowen, noted American biographer and National Book Award winner, comes the canonical account of the Constitutional Convention recommended as required reading for every American. Looked at straight from the records, the Federal Convention is startlingly fresh and new, and Mrs. Bowen evokes it as if the reader were actually there, mingling with the delegates, hearing their arguments, witnessing a dramatic moment in history. Here is the fascinating record of the hot, sultry summer months of debate and decision when ideas clashed and tempers flared. Here is the country as it was then, described by contemporaries, by Berkshire farmers in Massachusetts, by Patrick Henry's Kentucky allies, by French and English travelers.

Here, too, are the offstage voices--Thomas Jefferson and Tom Paine and John Adams from Europe. In all, fifty-five men attended; and in spite of the heat, in spite of clashing interests--the big states against the little, the slave states against the anti-slave states--in tension and anxiety that mounted week after week, they wrote out a working plan of government and put their signatures to it.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: Know Your Rights U.S. Attorney's Office, 2014-05-27 For more than 200 years, the Constitution of the United States has been a "working" document, maintaining the original principles upon which our nation was founded while, at the same time, changing with the country, as reflected in its amendments. While the U.S. Constitution itself outlines the basic structure of the federal government, its twenty-seven amendments address many subjects but primarily focus on the rights of individual American citizens. This booklet outlines those rights, offering historical context and other information that is both interesting and informative. The continued vitality of our democracy is dependent upon an informed citizenry. Understanding the history of the Constitution and its amendments will assist all of us in more fully appreciating these rights and responsibilities as they have evolved over time. Moreover, such understanding will ensure that these rights will continue to be exercised, valued, and cherished by future generations.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: The Supreme Court Compendium Lee Epstein, 1996 The Supreme Court Compendium: Data, Decisions, and Developments is a comprehensive collection of information on the Court and the justices -- past and present. The authors have enriched the second edition not only by adding current information to the tables now include data from the Vinson Court era drawn from the newly expanded U.S. Supreme Court Judicial Database. The second edition also features a list of Internet sites relating to the Court. -- Back cover.

icivics first branch legislative answer key: History-social Science Framework for California Public Schools , 2005

icivics first branch legislative answer key: The EduProtocol Field Guide Marlena Hebern, Corippo Jon, 2018-01-24 Are you ready to break out of the lesson-and-worksheet rut? Use The EduProtocol Field Guide to create engaging and effective instruction, build culture, and deliver content to K-12 students in a supportive, creative environment.

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