

Use Primary and Secondary Sources

A **primary source** is any record made by people who took part in an event or saw it happen. A primary source might be a letter, a diary, a book, an interview, a drawing, or a photograph.

A **secondary source** is any record made by people who did not take part in an event or did not see it take place. An encyclopedia is a secondary source. Written articles, paintings, and drawings made by people who did not see the event are also secondary sources.

DIRECTIONS

Read the two selections about the first Indianapolis 500 car race. Then answer the questions on page 11.

The Indianapolis 500

Dear Sarah,

We went to the Indianapolis 500 today. It was so exciting! I've never seen anything like the start of the race. There were loud bangs from the cars when they started their engines. Blue and white smoke rose in giant clouds. Then suddenly, the cars broke through the smoke and began racing around the track. I wish you had been there!

Steve

Indianapolis News, May 30, 1911

Reports from Indiana towns near Indianapolis are . . . that all available hotel accommodations [rooms] were taken by persons bound for Indianapolis. A Shelbyville hotel reported it had every available room taken by persons coming to the race.

It was reported from Cambridge City that at least five hundred automobiles and numerous motorcycles had passed through the town, over the National Road, since Sunday, bound for Indianapolis.

(continued)

Name _____ Date _____

Answer the following questions in the space provided.

1 Which selection is a primary source? How can you tell?

2 Which selection is a secondary source? How can you tell?

3 What type of source would a photograph of the 1911 race be?

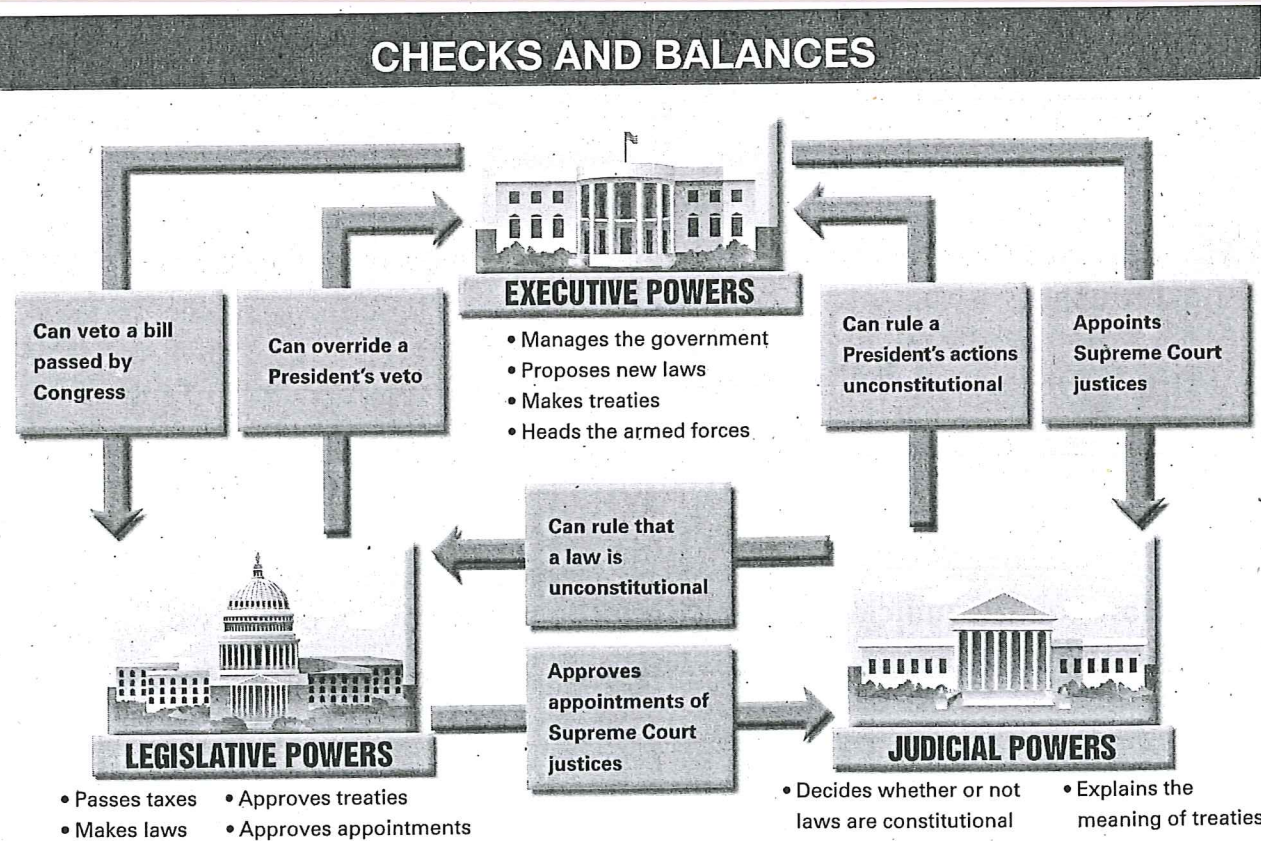
5.2 Branches of Government

The Constitution divides the federal government into three branches. These branches are the legislative branch, the executive branch, and the judicial branch. The Constitution's framers created this **separation of powers** to keep any one branch from controlling the government.

Articles I, II, and III of the Constitution explain the powers and duties of each branch. The Constitution gives each branch powers to check, or block, the powers of the other two branches. For example, the President can veto a bill passed by Congress. However, Congress can override that veto if it has enough votes. This system is called **checks and balances**. It keeps any one branch from becoming too powerful or misusing its authority.

DIRECTIONS

Study the chart below. Then answer the questions on page 74.



(continued)

Name _____ Date _____

1 What powers does the Constitution give to the legislative branch?

2 What powers does the Constitution give to the executive branch?

3 What powers does the Constitution give to the judicial branch?

4 How can the legislative branch check the powers of the other two branches?

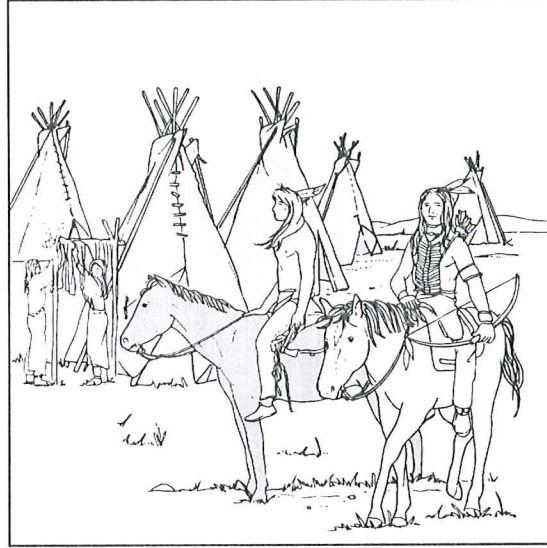
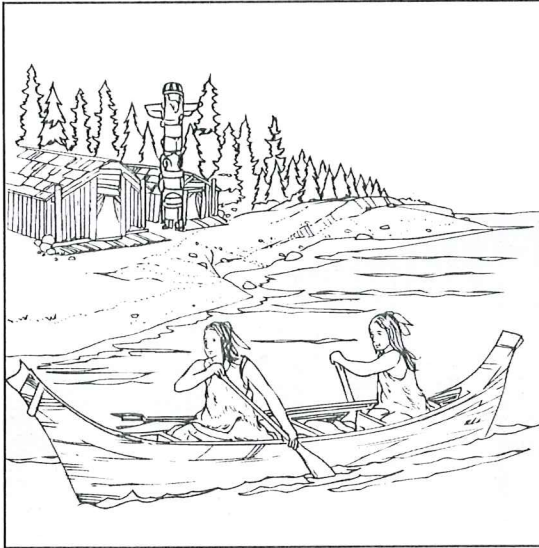
5 How can the executive branch check the powers of the other two branches?

6 How can the judicial branch check the powers of the other two branches?

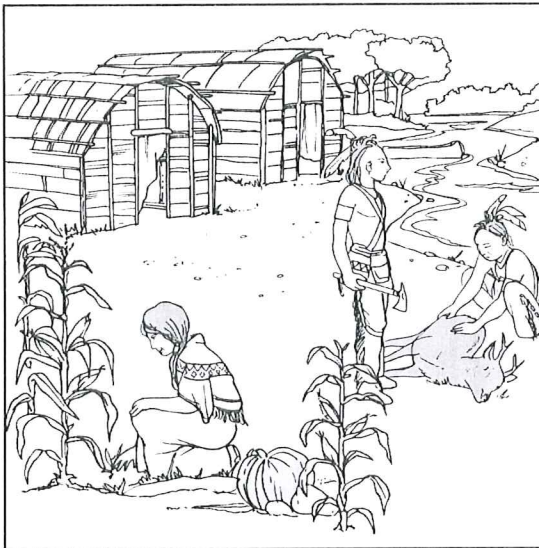
Session 4

4 Look at the pictures of the three Native American Indian groups. Choose TWO of the groups. Then use the pictures and what you have learned to answer the questions on the next page.

- 1** Makah of the Northwest **2** Lakota of the Great Plains



- 3** Mohawk of the Northeast



Go On 

Session 4

Name of group:

How did they get their food?

Why did they build the type of shelters shown?

Name of group:

How did they get their food?

Why did they build the type of shelters shown?

