CE.6a - Branches of Governments
What document defines the structure and powers of the national government? *The U.S. Constitution*

What city does our national government call home? *Washington, D.C.*

What branch of the government is led by Congress? *Legislative*

How many houses are in a bicameral legislature? *Two*

What are the two houses of Congress? *Senate and House of Representatives*

How many Senators make up the Senate? *100*

What determines the number of representatives in the House? *Population*

How many Representatives make up the House? *435*

Who is the Chief Executive of the United States and the leader of the executive branch? *The President*

What court is the highest court in the land? *The Supreme Court*

What branch of the government is made up of the federal courts and led by the Supreme Court? *Judicial*

What branch makes the laws of the land? *Legislative*

What branch executes the laws of the land? *Executive*

What branch tries cases and interprets the Constitution? *Judicial*

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**CE.6b - Powers of the National Government**

Which branch has the power?

- Raises revenue through taxes and other levies - *Legislative*

- Regulate interstate and foreign trade - *Legislative*

- Prepares the budget – *Executive*

- Approves the budget – *Legislative*

- Appoints cabinet officers, ambassadors, and federal judges – *Executive*

- Confirms or Approves presidential appointments – *Legislative*

- Administers the federal bureaucracy – *Executive*

- Declares War - *Legislative*
CE.6b - Separation of Powers
What limits the powers of the three branches and keeps them from abusing their power? *Separation of Powers*

What part of the Constitution defines the powers of the legislative, executive, and judicial branch? *Articles I, II, and III*

CE.6b - Checks & Balances
What branch can veto a bill? *Executive*

What branch can override a veto? *Legislative*

What branch prepares the annual budget? *Executive*

What branch approves the annual budget? *Legislative*

What branch can appoint judges and justices? *Executive*

What branch can confirm/approve judges and justices? *Legislative*

What branch can call a Special Session of Congress? *Executive*

What branch can impeach and convict the President? *Legislative*

What branch can impeach and convict a judge or justices? *Legislative*

What branch can declare federal laws or executive actions unconstitutional? *Judicial*

What is the power to declare federal laws or executive actions unconstitutional called? *Judicial Review*

CE.6c - The Lawmaking Process
Specific powers of the legislative branch listed in the Constitution – *Expressed Powers*

They are sometimes called the “necessary and proper” clause or the “elastic” clause. The legislative branch is given powers to help carry out their expressed powers though they are not specifically listed in the Constitution - *Implied Powers*

Elected officials write laws in response to *problems* or *issues* and because of the concerns of *individuals* and *interest groups*.

How does a bill become a federal law?

1. The bill is *introduced* by a Senator or Representative in Congress

2. Working on the bill in *committees*

3. *Floor debate* in each house


5. The bill must be signed by the *President* to become a law.
**CE.6d - Roles and Powers of the Executive Branch (National)**

Cabinet departments, agencies, and regulatory groups help **execute** the laws.

The President proposes legislation (laws) during the **State of the Union Address**.

Appealing directly to the people, approving or vetoing legislation, and appointing officials who carry out the laws are ways the executive branch attempts to influence **policymaking** (lawmaking).

**Head of Government Ceremonies - Chief of State**

**Head of the Executive Branch - Chief Executive**

**Proposer of the Legislative Agenda - Chief Legislator**

**Head of the Nation’s Armed Forces - Commander-in-Chief**

**Architect of America’s Foreign Policy - Chief Diplomat**

**Political Party Leader - Chief of Party**

**Representative of all of the people - Chief Citizen**

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**Page Four of “The Golden Ticket”**

**CE.7a - Structure of the Virginia State Government**

What document defines the structure and powers of the state government? *The Virginia Constitution*.

What is the name of the legislative branch in Virginia? *The General Assembly*.

What is the name of the two houses of the General Assembly? *Virginia Senate and House of Delegates*.

Who is the head of the executive branch in Virginia? *The Governor*.

Who does the Governor appoint to help him oversee specific functions of the government? *The Cabinet*.

Who are other elected officials of the executive branch? *Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General*.

How many years do the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General serve? *Four years*.

What branch is made up of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit Court, and District Courts? *Judicial Branch*.

**CE.7b - Federalism**

What is it called when power is shared between the national and state government? *Federalism*.

What is the supreme government in a federal system? *National Government*.

Powers not given to the national government are **reserved** (saved) powers for the states.

Ex Post Facto Laws and taxes on exports are examples of powers that are **denied** to both the national and state governments.
Tensions exist between the governments when the national government requires or mandates the state to take action on an issue without providing adequate **funding**.

Local governments derive their power from the – state

Conducting foreign policy, regulating commerce, and providing for the common defense are jobs of the **national** government.
Promoting public health, safety, and welfare are jobs of the **state** government.

**CE.7c - Virginia General Assembly**
Who is elected to make laws in response to problems or issues and because of the concerns of individuals and interest groups? *The Virginia General Assembly*

How does a bill become a state law?

1. The bill is introduced by a member of the **General Assembly**
2. Working on the bill in **committees**
3. Debating on the floor of **each house**
4. Voting on the bill in **each house**
5. The bill must be signed by the **Governor** to become a law.

What are the five primary issues for the General Assembly? *Public Health, State Budget, Education, Environment, and Revenue (Taxes).*

**CE.7d - Roles and Powers of the Executive Branch (State)**
What document grants power to the Governor of Virginia? *The Virginia Constitution*

The Governor proposes legislation (laws) during the **State of the Commonwealth Address**.

Head of State Government Ceremonies - **Chief of State**

Proposer of the State Legislative Agenda - **Chief Legislator**

Head of the State’s Armed Forces - **Commander-in-Chief**

Political Party Leader - **Chief of Party**

Head of the State Bureaucracy - **Chief Administrator**

Who helps the Governor administer and enforce the laws, regulate business and the economy, and provide services to the public? *Cabinet members, state agencies and commissions, and regulatory boards*

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**CE.8a - Local Governments in Virginia**
What are the three units of local government in Virginia? *Counties, Towns, and Cities*
Who is elected in a county and is given legislative powers plus adopts the county’s annual budget? **Board of Supervisors**

Who is elected in a town and is given legislative powers plus adopts the town's annual budget? **Town Council**

Who is elected in a city and is given legislative powers plus adopts the city's annual budget? **City Council**

What are the two ways that someone can become a mayor? **Elected by voters or appointed by council**

Who is hired by the elected legislative branch to oversee the daily operations of the local government? **Manager**

Who is elected or appointed in cities or counties and given the power to oversee the operation of the K-12 public schools? **School Board**

Who resolves judicial disputes in each locality? **The Courts**

What are the four courts that hear cases in each locality?

1. Circuit courts
2. General District courts
3. Juvenile and Domestic Relations courts
4. Small claims courts

The Virginia Constitution requires that voters in every locality elect a:

1. Sheriff
2. Clerk of the Circuit Court
3. Commissioner of Revenue
4. Treasurer

**CE.8b - Powers of Local Governments**
Where do local governments derive their power? **The State**

Not all counties and cities are given the same powers. Where are the powers of a city listed? **City Charter**

What are the powers of local governments?

1. enforce state and local **laws**
2. promote public **health**
3. protect public **safety**
4. educate **children**
5. protect the **environment**
6. regulate the use of **land**
7. levy and collect **taxes**

**CE.8c - Local Laws**
What is the name for the laws passed by local governments? **Ordinances**

Who creates and passes ordinances in a county? **Board of Supervisors**

Who creates and passes ordinances in a city? **City Council**

Who creates and passes ordinances in a town? **Town Council**
Who has the greatest influence on the decisions made by local governments? *Local Citizens*

**Page Six of “The Golden Ticket”**

**CE.10a - The Court System**
The power of the United States (federal) courts comes from – *United States Constitution and federal laws*

What federal court has original jurisdiction in most federal cases? *U.S. District Court*

What is the only federal court with a jury? *U.S. District Court*

What court normally hears appeals from U.S. District Court? *U.S. Court of Appeals*

What court is the highest court in the United States? *U.S. Supreme Court*

What court has limited original jurisdiction in the cases of states and foreign diplomats? *U.S. Supreme Court*

The power of the Virginia courts comes from – *Virginia Constitution and state laws*

Only Virginia court with a judge and jury – *Circuit Court*

What court hears cases involving minors and family matters? *Juvenile and Domestic Relations (JDR)*

What court hears misdemeanors and cases involving small dollar amounts? *General District Court*

What court hears felonies and cases involving large dollar amounts? *Circuit Court*

What court hears appeals from General District Court? *Circuit Court*

What court hears appeals from Circuit Court? *Virginia Court of Appeals*

What is the final court of appeal in Virginia? *Virginia Supreme Court*

Who issues search warrants, subpoenas, arrest warrants, summons, and sets bail? *Magistrate*

**CE.10b - Judicial Review**
The power of the Supreme Court to declare laws and acts unconstitutional – *Judicial Review*

What court case established judicial review? *Marbury v. Madison*

What is the supreme law of the land? *U.S. Constitution*

State laws must conform to what two documents? *Virginia and U.S. Constitution*

**CE.10c - Court Cases**
What are the two types of court cases? *Criminal and Civil*

A criminal case determines if someone is guilty of *breaking the law*.

A civil case settles a *disagreement* between two parties.

If the police have probable cause then they can *arrest* a person accused of a crime.
The accused can be committed to jail or released on **bail**.

Probable cause is reviewed and the accused enters a **plea** during the arraignment.

Following the arraignment a court date is set and a **trial** is conducted.

At the end of the trial, the **verdict** is given by the judge or jury. If you are found guilty you can **appeal**.

The plaintiff in a civil case is seeking to recover **damages** or receive **compensation**.

The verdict in a civil case may be **appealed** by either the plaintiff or defendant.

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**CE.10d - Due Process**

The constitutional protection against unfair governmental actions and laws – *due process*

What amendment prohibits the national government from acting in an unfair manner? *5th Amendment*

What amendment prohibits state and local governments from acting in an unfair manner? *14th Amendment*

The Supreme Court has extended the due process protection to cover - *The Bill of Rights*