| TOPIC: | Branches of the US Government  
**Advanced (Revised as of May 2006)** |
| SKILL: | Writing/Speaking |
| LEVEL: |  |
| COMPETENCIES: | W 97.02 Demonstrate understanding of the American system of government (3 branches)  
S 100.03 Clarify meaning by asking relevant questions and making relevant comments |
| CULTURAL FOCUS: | The student will understand how the branches of government work under the Constitution of the United States. |
| CLASSROOM PROCEDURES: | Classroom procedures:  
Introduce and develop the three branches of government  
Explain the function of the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government:  
Legislative branch makes the laws  
Executive branch approves the laws  
Judicial branch enforces the law  
List the powers of each branch on the board or overhead  
(See attached teacher resource information sheet)  
Have the students compare and contrast these three branches of government to those in their respective countries  
Student is to complete the activity sheet on comparing and contrasting. |
| GRAMMATICAL FOCUS: | Compound / complex sentences  
This is the power of the president unless…  
Understanding Using English Grammar A8-A11 |
| TEXT BOOKS: | Supplemental materials: *Buckle Down on Ohio: Strand 5 Democratic Process* |
| PRONUNCIATION: | Pronunciation:  
Syllable pronunciation  
1st syllable stress president federal treaty foreign  
2nd syllable stress appointed officials security executive conducted |
| MATERIALS/ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: | www.law.cornell.edu/constitution  
Teacher made activity sheet / Buckle Down Ohio |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| VOCABULARY:                         | legislative branch  
executive branch  
judicial branch  
separation of powers  
limited government  
citizens  
constitution  
bills  
officials  
propose  
veto  
trials  
ratify  
armed forces  
sentenced  
treaty |
| COMMUNITY RESOURCES:               | Guest speaker: Public Defender |
| EVALUATION:                        | 1. The student will understand the differences and similarities between the branches of government in the U.S. and other countries |

Lesson Plans by: Celeste Donohue  
Date: January 2004  
Instructor’s Name
The Separation of Powers

The Constitution limited the U.S. government by creating a separation of powers in which no branch can do its job alone; each depends on the other.

The legislative branch is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate, which make the nation’s laws.

The executive branch is made up of the president and the offices under his direction, which carry out the laws.

The judicial branch is made up of the courts, which interpret laws and decide how the laws should be applied.

POWERS

The legislative branch (Congress) can do the following:
- write bills
- hold hearings on bills before voting
- confirm (approve) people appointed to offices by the president
- remove the president or federal judges from office if they break the law
- approve Constitutional amendments before sending them to the states to ratify
- declare war and approve treaties with foreign countries

The executive branch (the president) can do the following:
- propose new laws for Congress to pass
- veto bills passed by Congress
- call Congress into session for special reasons
- appoint federal judges
- appoint people to work in departments that are part of the executive branch
- Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces
- makes treaties with foreign countries

The judicial branch (federal judges) can do the following:
- declare laws or executive branch actions unconstitutional
- conduct trials
- sentence convicted persons
COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES
Write the role of each branch and then state if the responsibilities are the same as or different from your country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United States of America</th>
<th>Your country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEGISLATIVE</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>write bills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>holds hearings/voting</td>
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<tr>
<td>remove president from office if he breaks the law</td>
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<tr>
<td>declare war</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXECUTIVE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>gives new laws to Congress</td>
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<td>vetoes bills passed by Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>appoint federal judges</td>
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<td>makes treaties w/ foreign countries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUDICIAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>declares some actions or laws unconstitutional</td>
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<tr>
<td>conducts trials</td>
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<td>sentence convicted persons</td>
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