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| Class Guide *Lesson 12 – How does the Constitution limit the powers of our government?* | Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Which branch of government do you think the Framers of the Constitution wanted to be the most powerful? |

**Step 1 – Bell Work – Critical Thinking Exercise.** *Imagine you were tasked to create a class government. How would you organize it? It would need the following powers: (1) Legislative Powers to make rules, (2) Executive Powers to enforce rules, and (3) Judicial Powers to settle disputes. Jot your thoughts below on what your class government would look like:*

Based on your discussion on the creating of a class government. Think about the questions below.

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| **Suppose you decide to give all the powers of the class government to one group of students. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of doing this?** | Suppose you decide to give all the powers to three different groups of students. You divide the powers of your government among them. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of doing this? |
| Advantages: | Advantages: |
| Disadvantages: | Disadvantages: |

**Step 2 – Vocabulary Work. Complete the vocabulary work necessary to understand this lesson. The vocabulary should be completed first. Terms to know:**

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| ***Balancing Powers*** | ***Branches*** | ***Checking Powers*** | ***Executive Powers*** |
| ***Judicial Powers*** | ***Legislative Powers*** | ***Separation of Powers*** | ***United States Supreme Court*** |

**Step 3 – Interactive Lecture. Answer the questions during the class discussion.**

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|  | **Why do you Congress is divided into two houses instead of having one house like in the Articles of Confederation?** |
|  | **Why do you think that as governments increase power that they may stop working for the Common Good?** |
|  | **Which government do you think you think the Framers feared the most becoming too powerful?** |
|  | **Are there times when one branch needs to become more powerful for the sake of the country?** |

**Step 4 – Checks and Balances Assignment.**

***Read “Checks and Balances in the US Constitution”***

***Complete the graphic organizer with the information from the reading.***

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