The Court System – Review, Games, Reflection

**Part I: Review**

The Courts in a Nutshell ([https://www.icivics.org/web-quests/courts-nutshell)](https://www.icivics.org/web-quests/courts-nutshell%29) - link on weebly

1. According to the Constitution, who has the power to create federal courts that are below the Supreme Court?
2. List one type of case that federal courts have jurisdiction over, one type that state courts have jurisdiction over, and one type that BOTH court systems can hear.
	1. Federal: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	2. State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	3. Both: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. For each problem, mark which system of courts has jurisdiction.



1. Look at the list of courts in your state. Decide which one is the highest court and click the link to that court’s website. On the site, look for a description of the court or the judges.
	1. Name of my state’s highest court: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	2. Number of judges on that court: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. How are the districts inside a state named?
	1. Is your state divided into districts? 🔿 Yes 🔿 No
	2. Complete this sentence:
		1. I live in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		2. District of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Federal Court of Appeals: Which circuit do you live in?
4. The Highest Court in the Land is the:
	1. Who is the current Chief Justice?
	2. Who has been on the court the longest?
	3. What year did that justice take his/her seat?
5. Complete the following information for three Supreme Court justices. Assume they sat on the Court of Appeals until the year they were appointed to the Supreme Court.

Justice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served on the \_\_\_\_\_ Circuit Court of Appeals for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Justice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served on the \_\_\_\_\_ Circuit Court of Appeals for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Justice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served on the \_\_\_\_\_ Circuit Court of Appeals for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

1. Did any of the justices serve on the Court of Appeals in YOUR circuit?

❑ No. I’m in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ circuit, and none served there.

❑ Yes. Justice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ served in the \_\_\_\_\_ circuit.

**Part II: Games**

**Game 1: Court Quest (see link on weebly for game)**

After playing the game, answer the following questions:

1. How would you describe the difference between the federal and state court systems?
2. Some states have very specialized courts. Which ones do you remember from the game?
3. What would happen if there was no appellate process?

**Game 2: Argument Wars (see link on weebly for game)**

After playing the game, answer the following questions:

1. When did arguments fail in the game? Why do you think they failed?
2. What made an argument successful? Why do you think that made the argument successful?
3. What is necessary to win a case at the Supreme Court?