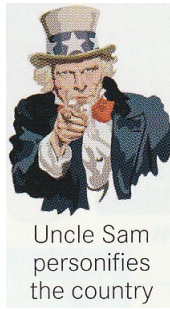
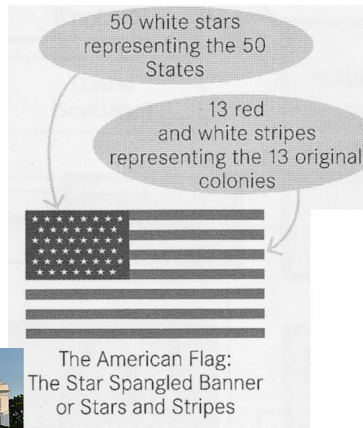


US FAST FACTS

FULL NAME: The United States of America
CAPITAL: Washington, DC
CURRENCY: American Dollar (USD \$)
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: None
OFFICIAL RELIGION: None
POPULATION: 328,5 million
LIFE EXPECTANCY: male 76,1 years; female 81,1 years
TOTAL AREA: 3,9 million square miles (3rd)
GOVERNMENT: Federal republic with two legislative houses and a President



EMBLEMS



MOTTOS

"E Pluribus Unum"
 (Out of many, one)

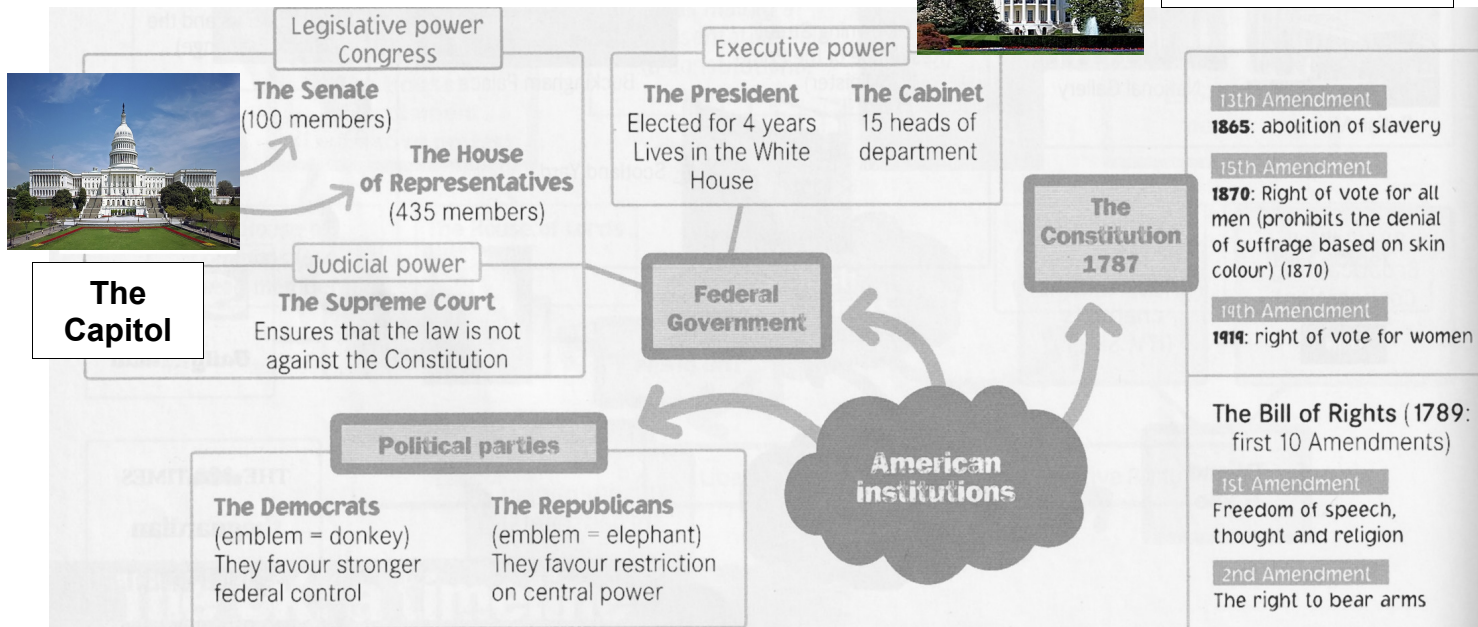
"In God We Trust"



National anthem:
Star Splangled Banner



The White House

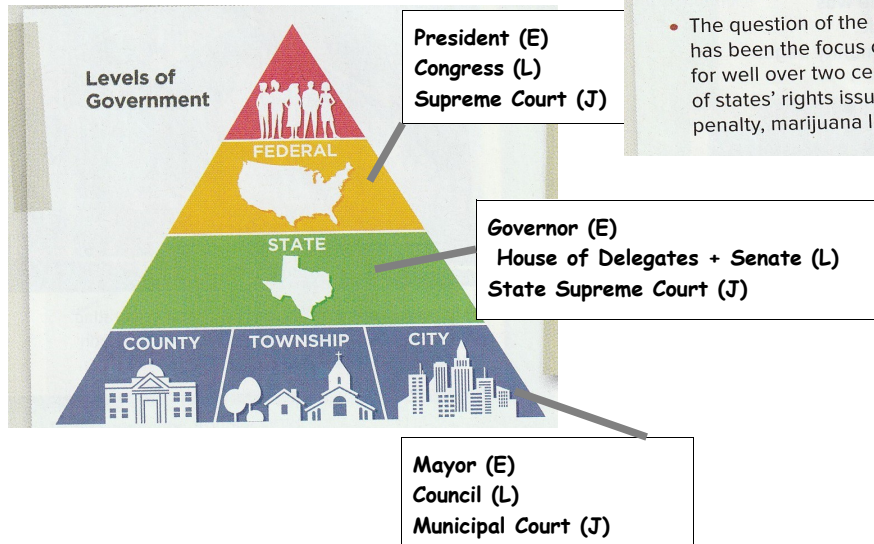


The Capitol

Power in the United States is shared between local, state, and federal governments. All powers not granted to the federal government are reserved for the states and the people.

DIFFERENT POWERS

- Americans are citizens both of the federal republic and of the state in which they reside.
- Each state has its own constitution which it uses as the basis for laws. It is modeled after the federal government and consist of three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial.
- The question of the states' right to govern themselves has been the focus of the American political landscape for well over two centuries. Highly important examples of states' rights issues include slavery, the death penalty, marijuana legalization or gun control.



STATES' RIGHTS

- Each state has the ability to decide certain laws and rights. For example, states issue marriage licenses and set the terms for divorce; they decide on speed limits and inspection requirements for cars.
- The states are also primarily responsible for the maintenance and operation of public schools and are heavily involved in the establishment of curriculum, teaching methods, and instructional materials. Consequently, teachers have to teach according to state and national standards.