

Constituting America:

Expansion of Suffrage



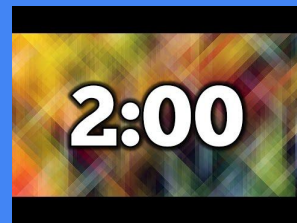
Christine Olsavsky & Adam Clark
Spring ISD

Do Now:

Why is the voting age 18?

What do you think the age should be? Why?

Justify your answer in **two sentences.**



- I think the voting age is 18 because _____.
- I believe the voting age should be _____ because _____.

Students will write their thoughts on paper at their seat upon arrival

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Writing 2+ Sentences
- No Movement

Today's Focus

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- **Listening to Presenter**
- No Movement



- **Objectives:**
 - **Be able to discuss the 3 branches of government outlined in the U.S. Constitution**
 - **Explain the expansion of suffrage & how the right to vote is protected by the Constitution**

The Constitution is the **frame** that our government system is built upon



Executive

Legislative

Judicial



The Constitution describes **three** branches of power

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- No Movement

Legislative Branch Practice

Left Hand Up



Makes an **L** for
Legislative
branch

Then holds two
fingers up for
two **Houses of**
Congress



The Senate

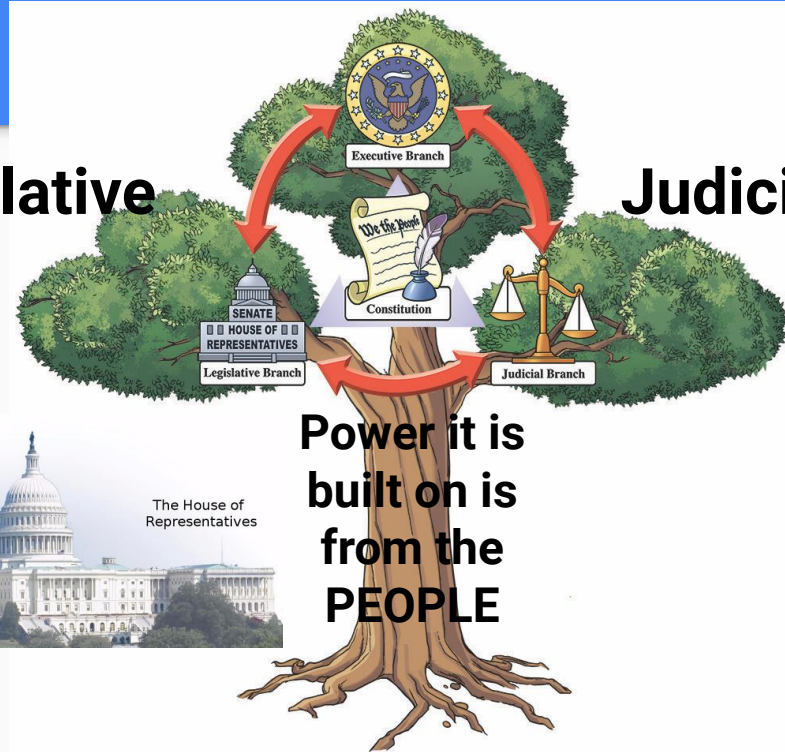


The House of
Representatives

Executive

Legislative

Judicial



- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- Copying Hand Motion

Executive Branch Practice

- Both hands
Frame head



- Face of the
government

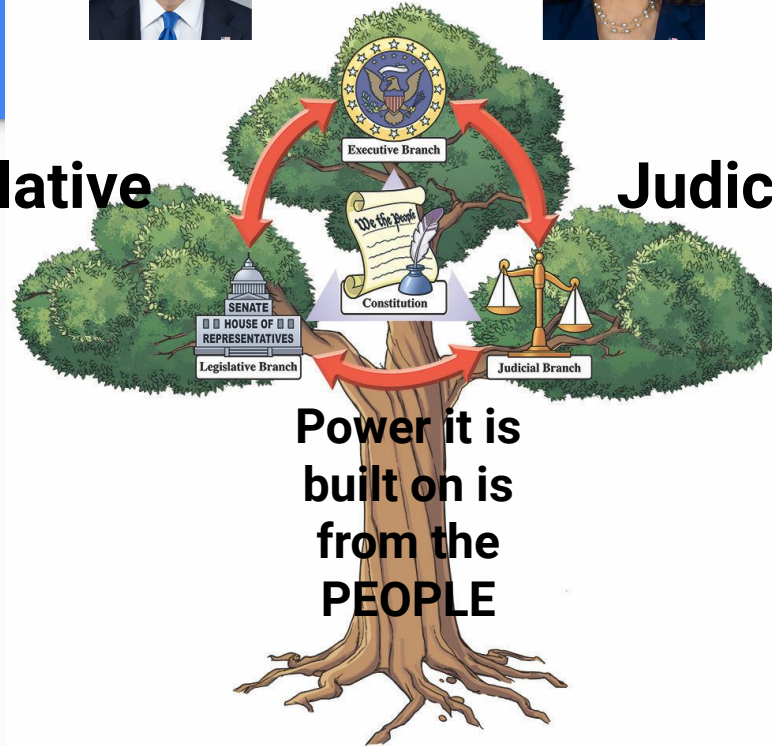


Executive



Legislative

Judicial



Executive Branch-

- President
- Vice President

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- Copying Hand Motion

<https://thehill.com/blogs/in-the-know/in-the-know/547333-white-house-unveils-official-portraits-of-biden-and-harris/>

<https://teachertools.studiesweekly.com/lesson-4-how-does-our-government-work/>

<https://www.istockphoto.com/photos/hands-framing>

Judicial Branch Practice

Executive

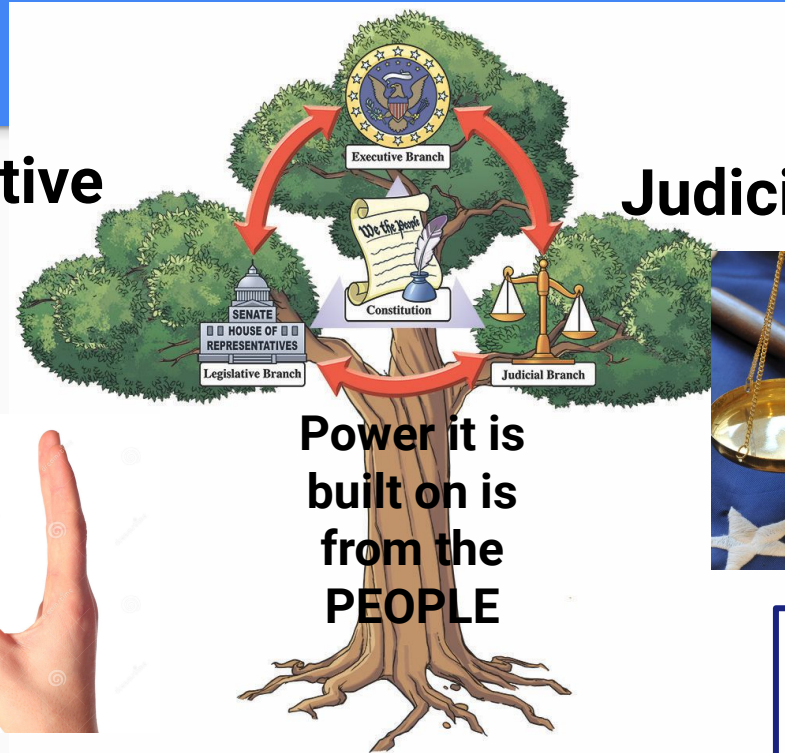
Right hand palm up
moves up and down

like a scale

Legislative

Then straight fingers
and curl thumb to
make a J

for **Judicial Branch**



Judicial



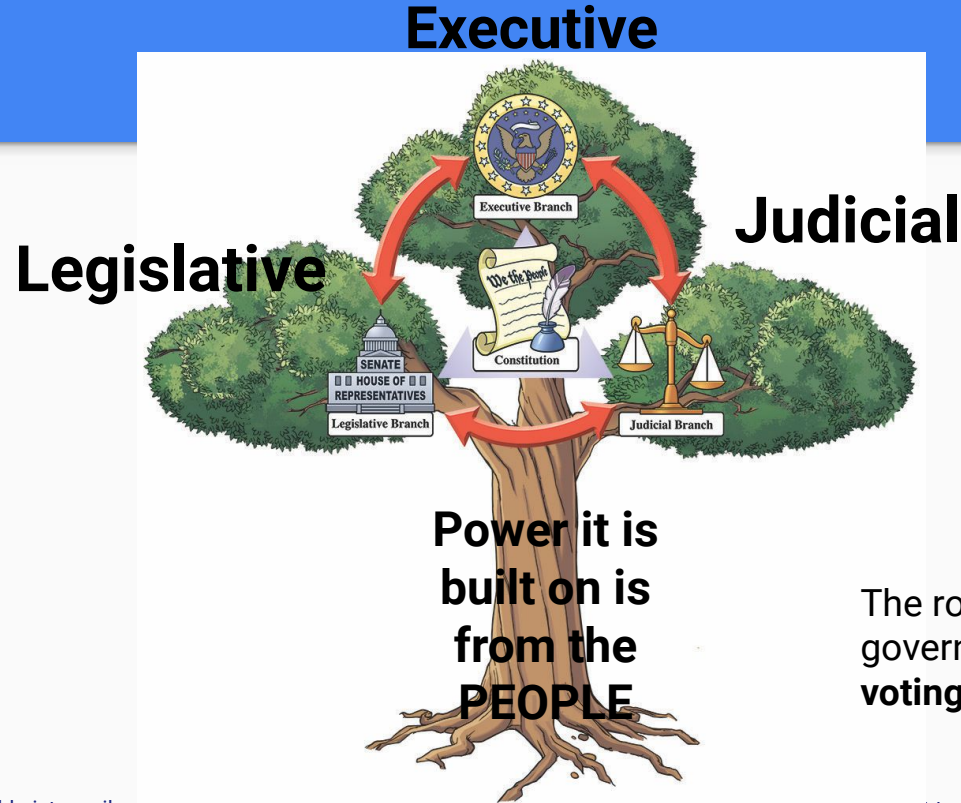
- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- Copying Hand Motion

<https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-photography-judicial-branch-image5735782>

<https://teachertools.studiesweekly.com/lesson-4-how-does-our-government-work/>

<https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-image-hand-represent-letter-i-image9158751>

Practice the 3 Branches!



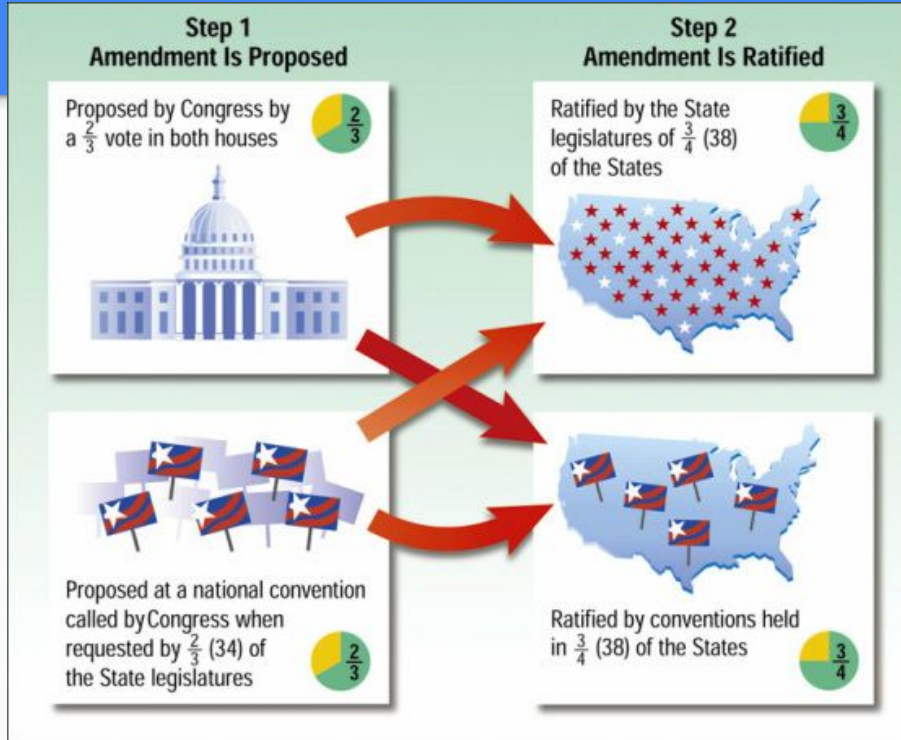
The Constitution provides the Frame for our government system

The root power of the government **rests with the voting people**

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- Copying Hand Motion

A change to the Constitution is called an Amendment

2:00

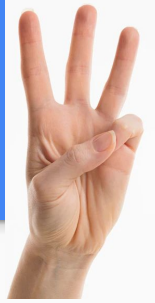


Turn & Talk with your neighbor about:

- Why are there two steps?
- Why can't the President or the Supreme Court Justices make amendments?
- Is there a benefit to this process?

- Level 1 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Speaking with Neighbor
- No Movement

Three Amendments have been passed that have expanded **suffrage-voting rights** to more American citizens



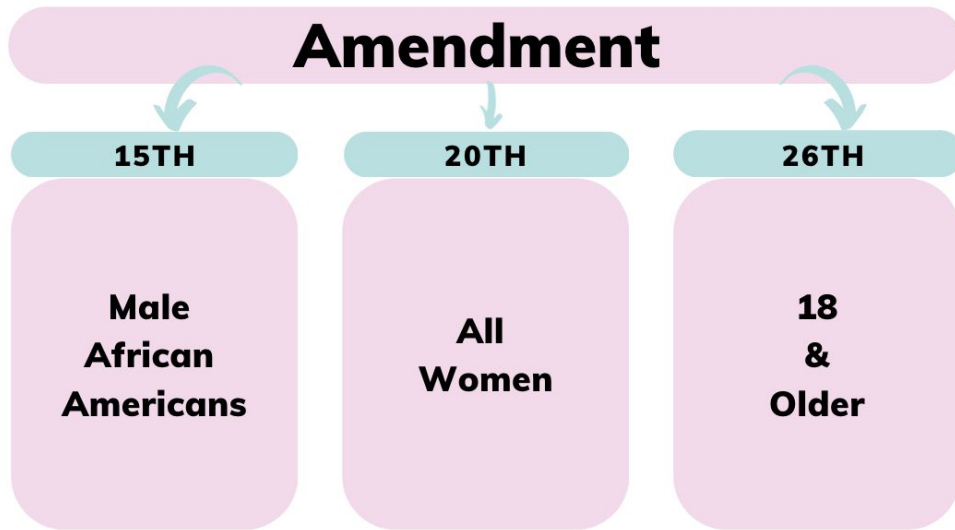
Turn & Talk with your neighbor about:

- What are some problems if certain groups do not have voting rights but the decisions of elected officials affect them?
- Would you like to have no voice in deciding something that impacted your life in a major way like:
 - freedom to work?
 - where to live?
 - how much taxes should be paid?
 - if US soldiers should fight somewhere?



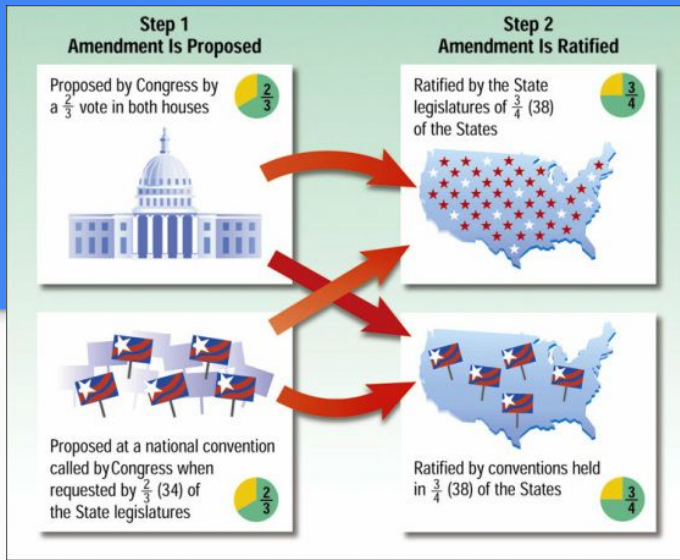
- Level 1 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- **Speaking with Neighbor**
- No Movement

Each of the **3 Amendments** expanded voting rights to a group that previously did not have a political voice.



Suffrage: the right to vote

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Writing Chart on Paper
- No Movement



- Events during different times in our history resulted in people wanting a change to the Constitution. The **power** of the Constitution and our government is with the **consent of the people through the vote**.
- Three changes were proposed and supported by the people and **Congress**, the elected representatives of the people, according to the requirements of the Constitution

● <https://theconstitutionrepeta11.weebly.com/amending-the-constitution.html>
<https://www.cnn.com/2013/10/31/us/u-s-constitution-fast-facts/index.html>

- Level 0 Sound
- Raise Hand for Help
- Listening to Teacher
- No Movement

Exit Ticket



4:00

- What are the three branches of government according to the Constitution?
 - The three branches of government are_____
- What amendment might you propose to address a big concern or improvement to the Constitution?
 - An amendment I would propose is_____
- Why is the right to vote important?
 - It is important to vote because_____
 - if you do not vote then _____

