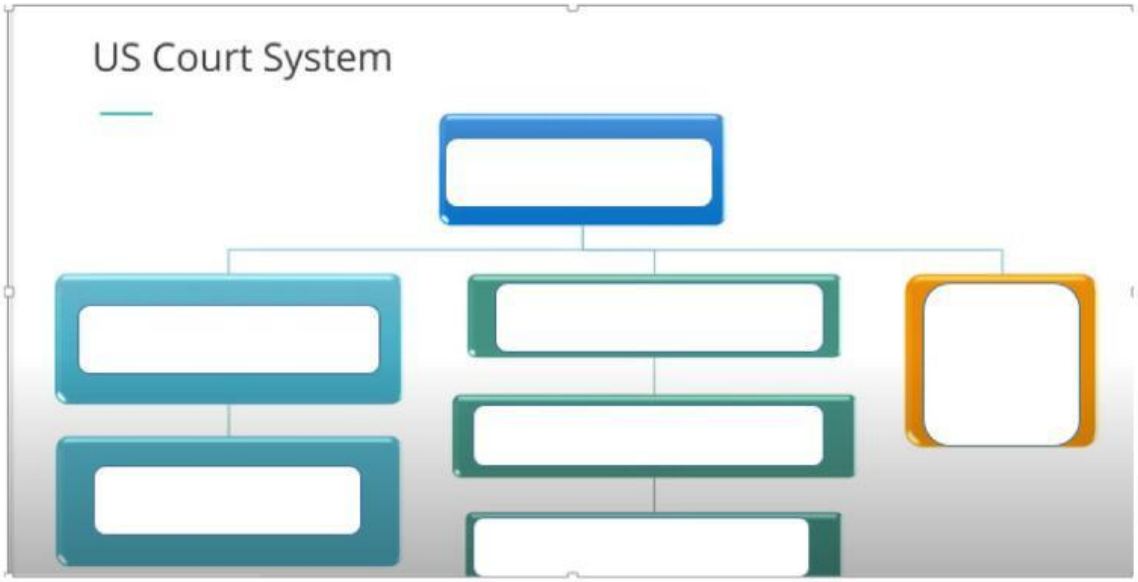
Structure of the US Court System

Use the following terms to fill out the Graphic Below:

State Supreme Courts US Supreme Court US Court of Appeals

US District Courts State Trial Courts Special Federal Courts and Entities

US Supreme Courts Intermediate Appellate Courts State Trial Courts



Matching:

Original Jurisdiction Federalism Judicial Review

Appellate Jurisdiction District Courts Checks and Balances

Case Certification System Diversity Jurisdiction

1. _____ - most cases are originally filed here and are ruled upon by judges and juries; also known as the front line courts
2. _____ - the sharing of powers between the federal government and states
3. _____ - limits the power of federal or national courts
4. _____ - the ability of the court to declare a legislative or executive act in violation of the constitution; established in the case of Marbury vs Madison in 1803 by the US Supreme Court (ie: cases on whether state laws are in violation of the US Constitution, such as burning of US flags)
5. _____ - gives parties from other states access to federal courts

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6. _____ - some cases may be immediately tried before the Supreme Court without having to go through the state or federal courts first (ie: lawsuits between 2 or more states, or cases involving ambassadors and other public ministers

7. _____ - The Supreme Court only agrees to hear or certify selected cases that have gone through the federal or state court system before reaching the Supreme Court; The Supreme Court only takes cases that come from the Federal Court of Appeals of the State Supreme Court.

8. _____ - can hear cases on appeal on almost any other case that involves the point of constitutional or federal law (ie: cases where the US is a party, cases involving treaties, and cases involving ships on the high seas)

Multiple Choice:

1. What is the highest court in the US?
    a. District Court
    b. Supreme Court
    c. Court of Appeals

2. Where is the US Supreme Court based?
    a. Sugarland, TX
    b. Lexington, KY
    c. Washington D.C.

3. What are the two court systems that exist in the US?
    a. International and Local
    b. Federal and State
    c. Regional and Out of State

4. How many federal districts are in the US?
    a. 100
    b. 94
    c. 85

5. How many Circuit Courts of Appeals does the US have?
    a. 12
    b. 2
    c. 15

LIVEWORKSHEETS