



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

VY_22_INOVACE_AJ_MAR_10

Učební materiál

Sada: Kultura a realie anglických mluvících zemí

Téma: Political Systems-Judicial Branch of USA

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Předmět: Anglický jazyk

Ročník: 4. ročník - VG

Využití: Učební materiál pro výuku anglického jazyka

Anotace: The worksheets can be used when learning about the political system of the United States. The material examines the functions of the Judicial system and offers possibility for discussion as well. The worksheet revises information required in English Department curriculum and Social Studies. Questions focus on listening comprehension, speaking skills, and formulating personal opinions.

USA Political System – Judicial Branch



I. Based on information provided in lectures, be prepared to answer and discuss the following questions about the **Judicial Branch** of the US government.

1. What types of affairs does the Judicial branch deal with? What is the highest court in the country?
2. How many judges sit on this court? They are usually not referred to as judges, but as what? Why is this term used?
3. The judges on the Supreme Court serve for life? Do you think this is a good idea or not? Why do you suppose this rule was established?
4. What is the selection process to become a judge on the Supreme Court?
5. In recent years, the courts in the US have been criticized for „legislating from the bench.“ What does this mean? Do you see this as a problem or not?
6. Tradition states that Supreme Court Justices make very few public appearances and rarely give speeches or interviews. Why do you think this is?

Key words and phrases: judicial, courts, Justice, appeal, nominate, confirm, jurisdiction, federal

Whereas the other branches are elected by the people, members of the Judicial Branch are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

The Federal courts are entrusted with power to interpret the law, determine the constitutionality of the law, and apply it to individual cases.

The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest court in the land.

The Constitution does not specifically provide for the number of Supreme Court Justices; the number is set instead by Congress. There have been as few as six, but since 1869 there have been nine Justices, including one Chief Justice. All Justices are nominated by the President, confirmed by the Senate, and hold their offices for life. Since Justices do not have to run or campaign for re-election, they are thought to be free of political pressure when deciding cases. Justices may remain in office until they resign, die, or are impeached and convicted by Congress.

As a sign of respect, judges on the Supreme Court are usually referred to as Justices rather than simply judges.

Sources:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/our-government/judicial-branch>

Image:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Seal_of_the_United_States_Supreme_Court.svg