**Directions:** This diagram shows the basic powers and checks & balances on those powers granted in the US Constitution to each branch of the Federal government. In the spaces provided find the Article, Section, and relevant quote which grants each power (or check on power) For powers NOT granted in the Constitution, research these and figure out when/how that power arose.

**LEGISLATIVE BRANCH – CONGRESS**  
*(House of Representatives & Senate)*  
- Write the laws
- Confirms presidential appointees
- Ratifies treaties
- Appropriates money

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH**  
*(President, VP, Cabinet)*  
- Administers/enforces the laws
- Appoints Ambassadors, Judges, Cabinet members & other officials
- Negotiates treaties
- Conducts foreign policy
- Proposes laws
- Commands armed forces

**JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
*(Supreme Court, and other federal courts)*  
- Interprets laws as constitutional or unconstitutional
- May declare executive actions unconstitutional
- Reviews court decisions

- *May impeach Supreme Court Judges*
- *May reject presidential judicial appointments*
- *May reject presidential appointments or treaties*
- *May override a veto*
- *May impeach a president*
- *May veto a bill*
- *May appeal to the public to put political pressure on legislators (use the bully pulpit)*
- *Vice President votes in Senate in cases of tied vote*
- *May declare legislation unconstitutional*
- *May propose Constitutional amendments to override judicial decision*