



NAME: _____

CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

NOMINATING & CONFIRMING A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

VOCABULARY

Directions: Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

1. **Judicial** (adj.) - referring to a judge, court or the court system
2. **Nominate** (v.) - to propose as a candidate for election to office
3. **Confirm** (v.) - to give approval to
4. **Appeal** (v.) - to ask a higher court to reverse the decision of a trial court after final judgment or other legal ruling. (**appellate** is the noun for this type of court)
5. **Jurisdiction** (n.) - the authority given by law to a court to try cases and rule on legal matters within a particular geographic area and/or over certain types of legal cases.
6. **Prosecutor** (n.) - generic term for the government's attorney in a criminal case
7. **Defense attorney** (n.) - a lawyer who regularly represents criminal defendants

CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Directions: As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- What is the role of the Supreme Court?
- What are the qualifications for Supreme Court justices?
- How does the Supreme Court check the other branches of government?
- What is the difference between appeals and cases of original jurisdiction?
- What is the process for filling vacant seats on the Supreme Court?
- How do vacancies on the Supreme Court cause opportunity and controversy?
- To what extent do Supreme Court justices reflect the demographics of the population and how has this changed over time?