**Units 5 & 6 (Judicial Branch/IL Government) Test Study Guide**

***Judicial Branch Overview***

1. What article establishes the Judicial Branch? Article III
2. How long do federal judges serve? Life
3. What type of court system do we have the US? Dual – meaning state and federal levels
4. Who appoints federal judges? Who approves them? President; Senate
5. What did Marbury v. Madison do? Established the concept of judicial review
6. Who has the power to make federal courts below the Supreme Court? Congress

***Supreme Court***

1. What is the only court set up in the US Constitution? Supreme Court
2. How many justices are on the Supreme Court? Is this number in the Constitution? Nine; No determined by Congress
3. What does the Supreme Court have final say on? All questions relating to the interpretation of the Constitution
4. The Supreme Court was designed to be as powerful as? other two branches: executive , legislative, and judicial are coequal
5. Justices may lose their position for these four reasons… impeach, resign, retire, death
6. How does the Supreme Court decide which cases it will hear? Questions of national importance – Rule of 4 (chooses the cases)
7. What are the steps of deciding a SC case? Briefs, oral arguments, conference, decision, write opinion
8. What qualifications must you have to be a SC Justice? none

***Legal Vocabulary***

1. Define the following:
	1. Brief - Written documents filed with the Court before oral arguments begin
	2. Writ of Certiorari - An order by the Supreme Court directing a lower court to send up the records in a given case for its review
	3. Majority Opinion - This type of opinion explains the court’s decision and the reasons why it came to its decision
	4. Concurring Opinion - This type of opinion is written by a Justice who agrees with the majority, but for different reasons
	5. Dissenting Opinion - This opinion is written by Justices who disagree with the majority opinion
	6. Plaintiff - The person who files suit
	7. Defendant - The person who is being sued/charged with a crime
	8. Precedents - Examples to be followed by lower courts in similar cases that come before them
	9. Judicial Activism – Philosophy in which judges take an active role in creating policy/helping the country move forward.
	10. Judicial Restraint – Philosophy that says that judges should only rule based on the words of the Constitution. Leave policy to leg. & exec. branches
2. What is judicial review? SCOTUS has final say in all matters of constitutionality
3. What type of jurisdiction does the Supreme Court have? Appellate, original and exclusive

***US Constitution Amendments/Civil Liberties***

1. Know the first ten amendments and be able to identify a scenario that involves each amendment and the rights contained in it.
2. What are Miranda rights? Right to remain silent, right to an attorney
3. What amendment was applied in *Brown v. Board of Ed. of Topeka*? 14th amendment equal protection clause

***IL Legislative Branch***

1. What is the name for each house of the IL state legislature? And together they are called? House and Senate; General Assembly
2. How many state senators are there? 59
3. How many state representatives are there? 118
4. How many state representatives are there for every state senator? 2:1
5. The length of term for a state senator is? 4 years (4/4/2)
6. The length of term for a state representative is? 2 years
7. What qualifications do you need to have to be state senator or representative? 21 yrs old, U.S. Citizen, live in district 3 yrs

***IL Executive Branch***

1. What qualifications do you need to have to be governor? 25 yrs old, U.S. citizen, live in IL
2. How long is the term of governor? 4 yrs
3. How are the members of the Executive Branch in IL chosen? Elected by voters
4. Who is the current governor of IL? Bruce Rauner
5. Who takes over if the governor is unable to continue to serve? Lieutenant Governor
6. What officer is in charge of paying the state’s bills? Comptroller
7. What officer acts as the banker for the state? Treasurer
8. What officer is the chief law enforcement officer for the state? Attorney General
9. What officer issues driver’s licenses? Secretary of State

***IL Judicial Branch***

1. How long is a term for an IL Supreme Court Justice? 10 YRS
2. How do you become an IL state judge? Elected
3. How many levels of does the IL judicial branch have? Three

***Other IL Constitution Qs***

1. What articles in the IL Constitution talk about the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branches? Articles IV, V & VI
2. What is Article III of the IL Constitution about? Suffrage and elections
3. How many articles does the IL Constitution have? 14
4. What are the two options to change the IL Constitution? Formal amendment w 3/5 vote of GA, or Constitutional convention
5. Where is the Bill of Rights in the IL Constitution? Article I
6. What are the qualifications to vote in IL? Can you vote if you are a former prisoner? 18 yrs old, live in IL past 30 days; Yes.
7. The current IL Constitution was adopted in what year? 1970