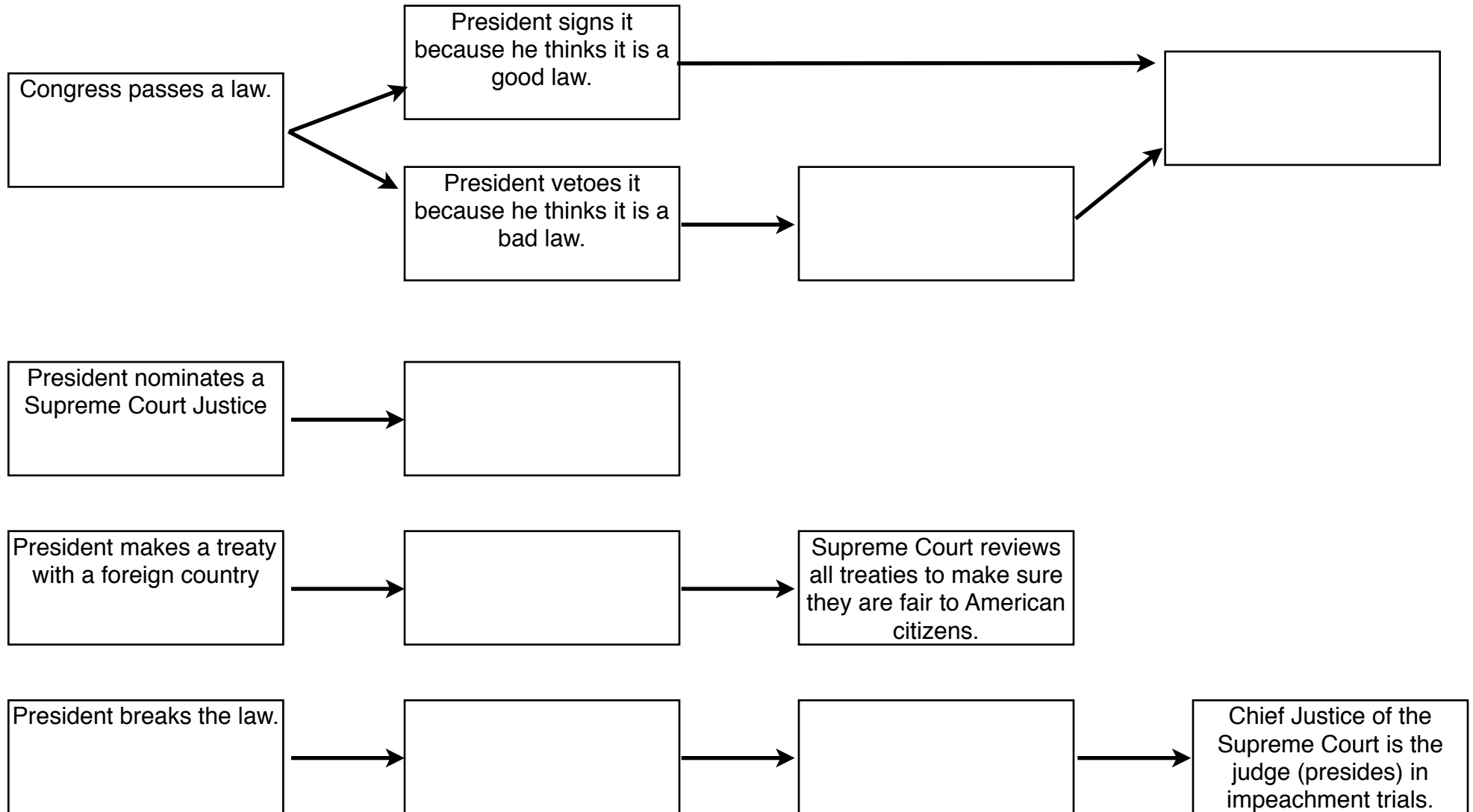


Checks and Balances



In order to keep people from gaining too much power, a systems of checks and balances was created. Fill in the empty boxes with how another branch will be involved in the action stated in the first box. Highlight all the boxes having to do with Congress (including Senate & House of Reps) in one color, highlight all the boxes involving the President in another, highlight all the boxes involving the Supreme Court in a third color.



Checks & Balances Questions

Explain how each branch can check the power of another branch in the situations below. Use the Checks & Balances flow chart to help you.

1. If Congress passes a law that the President thinks is bad for the country, then...
2. If the President vetoes a law, but the great majority of Congress still thinks it is a good law, then...
3. If it has been discovered that the President has been hiding information that the Justice Department wanted in a criminal investigation (this is illegal), then...
4. If Congress passes, and the President signs a law saying that it is illegal to criticize the government, then...
5. If the President is unhappy with decisions made by the Supreme Court, and one of the Supreme Court justices retires, then...

Respond to this prompt in 2-3 sentences: *How does the system of checks & balances prevent an abuse of power?*