

MS CONSTITUTION 101

Module 9: The Judicial System

9.5.2: Supreme Court Partner Read



SUPREME COURT PARTNER READ

Open the [How Does a Case Get to the Supreme Court?](#) handout. You and your partner will read the page together. One partner will read a section and teach their partner what it's all about. Take turns reading and teaching each section until you and your partner have answered all of the questions below. Be ready to share your answers to the reflection questions with the class!

Supreme Court Basics

When does the Supreme Court's term begin and end?

How many cases does the Supreme Court typically hear each year?

What is the "Rule of Four"?

The Path to the Supreme Court

Where do federal cases that go before the Supreme Court usually start?

What happens if someone appeals a case?

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Supreme Court Review

How does the Supreme Court decide which cases to take?

What types of cases do the justices look for?

What is a “circuit split”?

Why does the Supreme Court care about circuit splits?

What Happens After the Court Accepts a Case?

What are briefs, and who writes them?

What is an oral argument?

How do the justices decide the case?

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Reflection Questions

Write down one question you have about this process.

After discussing with your partner, what part of the process do you think is the most important? Why?