

Scenario #1—A police officer pulls over a red sports car. When he approaches the driver, he asks to see his license and registration. After checking out the driver's information in his police cruiser, the white officer returns and tickets the driver. The officer doesn't ticket the driver for speeding or running a stop sign, but instead tickets him for driving a red car.

- What branch of government issued the ticket?
- What branch of government will decide whether or not the ticket is fair?
- What would happen if there weren't checks and balances in this situation?

Scenario #3—The city council of Rockwood voted that everyone must worship at the Church of Rockwood on Sundays. Some of its citizens were upset and decided to sue the city for taking away their rights as United States' citizens.

- What branch of government made the Church of Rockwood law?
- What branch of government will decide if the law is constitutional?
- What would happen if there weren't checks and balances in this situation?

Scenario #2—A student goes to city hall to see the city manager. He asks the city manager to change a nearby parking lot into a basketball court. The city manager says, "Great idea! Kids will love it. Let's start fixing up the concrete tomorrow."

- What branch of government decided that the basketball court could be made?
- What branch of government is supposed to make such decisions/laws?
- What would happen if there weren't checks and balances in this situation?

Scenario #4—A local judge sentenced a woman to life in prison for littering at a local park. The judge told the woman that the park is a favorite of his kids and that she must pay the price for not putting her trash in the appropriate container.

- What branch of government sentenced the woman?
- What branch of government will decide if the sentence is fair?
- What would happen if there weren't checks and balances in this situation?