

Watch the Court Shorts: Independent Judiciary episode and fill out the graphic organizer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TywjEd6QPuk>

Topic	Notes
Why is a fair and impartial judiciary important?	
What is judicial independence?	
Do judges have unlimited power?	
Should judges be accountable to public opinion?	
Can judges make whatever decisions they wish?	
How does the judicial system correct errors?	

Reflection questions- answer in your own words

1. What do you think would happen to the concept of “justice of all” if the judiciary was not impartial, but biased and unfair?
2. What sorts of laws might congress pass if judicial independence was eliminated?
3. Why is the concept of “limited government” important in the judiciary?
4. If judges were directly accountable to public opinion, how different do you think cases like *Brown v. Board of Education* would have been ruled?
5. How does the appeals process strengthen the concept of an impartial judiciary?

MO Learning Standards

9-12.GV.1.GS.A- Analyze laws, policies, and processes to determine how government systems affect individuals and groups in society.

9-12.GV.3.GS.A- Apply the concepts of due process of law, popular sovereignty, rule of law, representation, and federalism to explain the purpose and legacy of the constitution.