

# A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE COURTS:



## Judges Compare State and Federal Judicial Systems

### PRE/POST TEST (Grades 9-12):

1. Which example *best* illustrates the difference between general jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction? (DOK 1-2)
  - a. Limited jurisdiction allows state courts to hear only those cases specifically authorized by the U.S. Constitution
  - b. Whether a court is considered of limited jurisdiction or general jurisdiction is determined whether that court hears civil or criminal cases.
  - c. General jurisdiction allows courts to hear cases not specifically selected for federal jurisdiction and limited jurisdiction restricts courts to constitutional questions and federal law.
  - d. General jurisdiction allows federal courts to hear both federal and state cases and limited jurisdiction limits state courts to criminal cases.

2. Briefly summarize how a case gets before a state or federal court and the role of the judge during the trial. (DOK 2-3)

Enter the answer in the box.

3. Which of the following statements are true about the Missouri judiciary?

Select *all* that apply. (DOK 1)

- A. Missouri courts hear both criminal and civil cases.
- B. Cases arising from U.S. Constitution must begin in a Missouri court.
- C. Missouri judges are appointed for life, as long as they demonstrate good behavior.
- D. While the Missouri judiciary has trial courts, appellate courts can only be found in the federal judiciary.

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4. Select the boxes which indicate standards applying to Missouri judges and those which apply to federal judges. (DOK 1-2)

	Missouri Judges	Federal Judges
Hear cases involving both civil and criminal cases		
Are confirmed by the U.S. Senate		
Are nominated by a judicial commission		
Undergo an FBI background investigation		
Serve a term of a number of years, then confirmed by a majority of the voters in a general election		
Hear cases involving disputes between states		

5. Briefly explain why the Founders, in Article III stated federal judges “shall hold their offices during good behaviour,” rather than placing term limits. (DOK 2-3)

Enter the answer in the box.