

READING ACTIVITY



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Differences between Brazil's and USA's Supreme Courts



Brazil and the United States are two of the largest democracies in the world and they share some similarities in their political systems. However, when it comes to their Supreme Courts, there are significant differences in their structures and roles.

Firstly, the Supreme Court of Brazil is composed of 11 justices, while the Supreme Court of the United States is composed of nine justices. Additionally, the Brazilian justices are appointed by the President of the Republic, with the approval of the Senate, and they serve until they reach the age of 75 years old. On the other hand, the American justices are appointed by the President of the United States, with the approval of the Senate, and they serve for life or until they resign, retire, or are impeached.

Secondly, the role of the Brazilian Supreme Court is broader than that of the American Supreme Court. In Brazil, the Supreme Court has the power of judicial review over any law or act of government, including those enacted by the President or the Congress. This means that the Brazilian Supreme Court can declare laws or acts unconstitutional, null and void. In contrast, the American Supreme Court can only review the constitutionality of laws and acts that are brought before it in specific cases, through a process called judicial review.

Thirdly, the Brazilian Supreme Court has more justices than the American Supreme Court because of its role as a constitutional court, which means that it has to deal with a wider range of legal issues, including those related to the constitutionality of laws and acts of government. The American Supreme Court, on the other hand, has a more limited role, as it mainly deals with cases that are brought before it through the process of judicial review.

TEACHER'S NOTES

Go to the next page to answer the questions regarding your comprehension of the main ideas and usage of the grammatical structures encompassed in this text.

WORD FREQUENCY
SENTENCE LENGTH
IDEA COMPLEXITY
PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE



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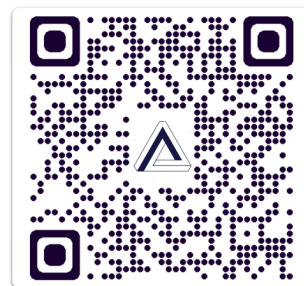
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Differences between Brazil's and USA's Supreme Courts



1. How many justices are on the Brazilian Supreme Court?

- A) 9
- B) 11
- C) 13
- D) 15
- E) 17

2. How are the justices of the Brazilian Supreme Court appointed?

- A) By popular vote
- B) By the Congress
- C) By the President, with the approval of the Senate
- D) By the Attorney General
- E) By the Governor of the state

3. How long do Brazilian justices serve on the Supreme Court?

- A) For life
- B) Until they retire
- C) Until they are impeached
- D) Until they reach the age of 70 years old
- E) Until they reach the age of 75 years old

4. What is the role of the Brazilian Supreme Court?

- A) To review the constitutionality of laws and acts that are brought before it in specific cases
- B) To interpret the Constitution in specific cases
- C) To declare laws or acts unconstitutional, null and void
- D) To enforce the laws passed by the Congress
- E) To advise the President on legal matters

5. What is the main role of the American Supreme Court?

- A) To review the constitutionality of laws and acts that are brought before it in specific cases
- B) To interpret the Constitution in specific cases
- C) To declare laws or acts unconstitutional, null and void
- D) To enforce the laws passed by the Congress
- E) To advise the President on legal matters.

STUDENTS NOTES

Scan the QR Code to listen to the text and check the answer key.