

Answer Key: Texas Today

Warm-up

- Student responses will vary

Lesson

GRADE LEVEL and FOUNDATIONS

Part I: Matching

Levels of Government

1. A
2. C
3. B

Branches of Government

1. C
2. B
3. A

ADVANCED

1. The levels of government are state, county, and municipal. The state level is responsible for managing the functions of the state including passing state taxes and laws, interpreting the laws, settling legal disputes, and managing departments including the Health and Human Services, Criminal Justice, and Parks and Wildlife. The county level of government is responsible for carrying out the laws and functions required by the state including elections, managing the county courts and jails, and collecting property taxes. The municipal level of government is responsible for managing and carrying out the day-to-day aspects of managing a city including maintaining roads, sidewalks, public parks, and providing services like water, sewage, and garbage removal.
2. The three branches of the government at the state level are the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The executive branch is responsible for enforcing the laws of the state and managing the operations of the state. The Legislative Branch is responsible for passing laws, taxes, and setting and enacting the budget for government programs and operations. The Judicial Branch is responsible for settling legal disputes and interpreting the laws of the state.
3. The government at every level pays for the services it provides by passing different kinds of taxes like sales taxes and property taxes.

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Part II: Comprehension Questions

1. B (Grade Level and Foundations Only)
2. Match Table Grid Answers are below

Function	Municipal	County	State
Carries out the mandatory functions required by the laws of the state.		X	
Maintains safe streets and parks and provides services like police and fire departments.	X		
Passes taxes to pay for the services provided to citizens.	X	X	X
Conducts elections and manages courts and jails.		X	
Runs departments including Health and Human Services and Parks and Wildlife.			X
Contains a commissioner's court elected from different precincts		X	
Contains the Senate, which is presided over by the Lieutenant Governor, and the House of Representatives.			X
Contains the Supreme Courts which interpret the laws and settle legal disputes.			X
Provides citizens with necessary day-to-day services like clean water, sewage, and garbage removal.	X		

3. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor will vary depending on the year this lesson is carried out.
4. The senate district and senator will vary by district.
5. The representative district and representative will vary by district.

Note: txdot.gov contains accurate maps including the districts and the senators and representatives for each.

Exit Ticket

- Student responses will vary