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| 1. What are the two systems of courts in the United States?
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| 1. What is the difference between the types of cases heard in Federal and State court systems?
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| 1. Where do cases start on both federal and state levels?
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| 1. Who hears cases at the District and County Level?
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| 1. Who hears the case on the appellate level?
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| 1. Who hears cases at the Supreme Court level? How many are there in each system?
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| 1. Why are there an odd number of justices in the supreme courts?
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| 1. Where would a case originating in Orange Park be heard?
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| 1. Which courts deal with case appeals?
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| 1. What court is the last chance for a case to be heard before the decision cannot be appealed again?
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**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pd.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Use the Federal and State Court Diagram to help you answer the questions below.

**The Federal and Florida State Court Systems – Sample Graphic Organizer**

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| **The Federal Court System**  |

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| **The U.S. Supreme Court** * This is the highest court in the United States.
* The Supreme Court is structured with eight justices and a Chief Justice.

**Appellate Jurisdiction*** This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal and from state supreme courts.
* The Supreme Court has the power of judicial review.
* The U.S. Supreme Court is an appellate court.
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| **U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal*** There are 12 circuits in the U.S.
* These courts have panels of three judges that hear cases.

**Appellate Jurisdiction*** This court has the power to hear appeals from U.S. District Courts.
* The U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal are appellate courts.
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| **U.S. District Courts****Original and Appellate Jurisdiction-Felonies*** There are 94 district courts in the U.S.
* The courts are structured with a judge and a jury.
* This court level is where most federal cases start.
* This court has the power to hear civil and criminal cases related to federal laws.
* The U.S. District Courts are trial courts.
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**Original jurisdiction-misdemeanors** |

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| **The Florida State Court System**  |

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| **The Florida Supreme Court*** This is the highest court in Florida and is located in Tallahassee.
* The FL Supreme Court is structured with seven justices and a Chief Justice.
* This court has the power to hear appeals from the District Courts of Appeal as well as other cases as assigned from the FL Legislature.
* The Florida Supreme Court is an appellate court.
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| **Florida District Courts of Appeal*** There are 12 circuits in Florida.
* The courts have panels of three judges that hear cases.
* This court has the power to hear appeals from Florida Circuit Courts.
* The Florida District Courts of Appeal are appellate courts.
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| **Florida Circuit Courts*** There are 20 circuit courts in Florida.
* The courts are structured with a judge and a jury.
* This court has the power to hear trials on cases not assigned to county courts and appeals from county courts.
* The Florida Circuit Courts are trial and appellate courts.
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| **Florida County Courts*** There is a county court in every Florida County.
* The courts are structured with a judge.
* This court has the power to hear minor arguments between citizens and minor criminal offenses.
* The Florida County Courts are trial courts.
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