**Interpretations of the Constitution**

Read the following situations and determine if the they represent a Strict or Loose Interpretation of the Constitution.

1. The President of the United States decides that it is time to be more productive with the government. He decides to take over the power of the Congress to declare war. He says the Constitution makes him the head of all the military so it only makes sense that he declares wars.

Does the President have a strict or loose interpretation of the Constitution? Why?

1. A Justice on the Supreme Court just heard that the President has decided to imprison any people who speak out against the President or his policies. The Justice believes the Constitution does not allow the President to do this and declares the President’s actions unconstitutional.

Does the Supreme Court Justice have a strict or loose interpretation of the Constitution? Why?

1. The Speaker of the House of Representatives decides that the Constitution states Congress has the power to create the postal service and roads for the postal service to transport mail on but does not give the Congress the power to create roads or other means of transportation and he believes these powers are reserved for the states.

Does the Speaker of the House have a strict or loose interpretation of the Constitution? Why?

1. The Secretary of the Treasury decides that in order to improve the nation’s economy which is his job, he is going to create a National Bank of the United States. This Bank will be responsible for creating and managing money for the nation. Congress agrees with the Secretary and passes a law creating the National Bank. They claim the “necessary and proper” clause of the Constitution allows them to do this.

Does the Secretary of the Treasury have a strict or loose interpretation of the Constitution? Why?

Complete a connection triangle about the following: Loose Interpretation, Strict Interpretation, National Bank

Loose Interpretation

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Strict Interpretation National Bank