**Chapters 8 & 13: Federal Court System**

1. Powers of Supreme Court

* Created by Article III of the Constitution
* Last resort on all questions of federal law **(Cannot Rule on State Laws)**
* Final authority on the meaning of words in the United States
* **Jurisdiction –**
* Federal courts may hear cases involving U.S. laws, foreign treaties, and the Constitution
* No federal court is allowed to initiate actions
* **Litigants –**

1. *Marbury V Madison*

* Thomas Jefferson vs. Alexander Hamilton
* **Judicial Review –**

1. Thomas Jefferson

* Democratic-Republican
* Secretary of State under Washington
* Wanted a government close to the people – Wanted a country of small farmers
* **Strict Constitutional –**
* Jefferson resigns in protest of Hamilton’s beliefs

1. Alexander Hamilton

* Federalist
* Secretary of the Treasury under Washington
* Favored a strong central government where common people played no part
* **Loose Constitutional –**

1. Election of 1800

* Jefferson is able to defeat President John Adams
* One of the most hostile elections in U.S. history
* Eldest of 15 children
* Received a “frontier education”
* Revolutionary War hero
* **1798 –**
* **1799 –**
* **1801 - 1835 –**

H. The Dispute

* **“Midnight Appointments” –**
* **William Marbury –**
* John Marshall had given 17 commissions to be delivered by his brother – 4 **Never Delivered**
* **James Madison –**
* Marbury went to the Supreme Court and wanted a writ of mandamus
* **Writ of Mandamus –**
* Created by the Judiciary Act of 1789