**Argument Essay**

Develop an argument that explains which branch, the legislative or executive, best achieves the founders’ intent for placing the American military into war.

In your essay, you must:

* Articulate a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the prompt and establishes a line of reasoning
* Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of accurate and relevant information:
* At least ONE piece of information must be from the following foundational documents:
  + The Constitution of the United States
  + Federalist 51
  + Federalist 70
* Use a second piece of evidence from the other document in the list above or form your study of Supreme Court cases.
* Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim/thesis
* Address opposing or alternative perspectives through refutation, concession, and rebuttal

Key:

Constitutional Conflict – Congress declares war but the President is commander in chief of the armed forces.

Federalist 51 – checks and balances, POTUS is commander in chief but Congress has the power of the purse.

Federalist 70 – Strong president is good for republic. President should have strong war powers because “divisiveness could destroy the national security.”