

Candidate 10 evidence

	Section 2 - Political Systems.	
3b.		
	The two political systems I have studied are the UK's political system and the US political system. In the UK system, the executive branch is the Government and in the US system, the executive branch is the President, both have limits on their powers and both to different extents.	
	In the United Kingdom, the executive branch is the Government. The Government is made up of two houses - the elected House of Commons and the unelected House of Lords. The Commons are made up of MPs and the Prime Minister is one of those MPs. The Prime Minister is elected with the Government and becomes Prime Minister as he is the leader of the party with the majority in	

Parliament, currently, as of the 2015 General Election, Conservative leader David Cameron is the current Prime Minister (PM). The UK Government has a number of limits on its powers of passing laws. Perhaps the most major limit on the UK Government are the UK Select Committees. Select Committees main job is to scrutinise the work of the government and its experts, etc. Select Committees tend to not have a large influence on the government based on the fact they hold no legal powers and are unable to contribute their thoughts onto the amendments of bills. Another way in which Select Committees have little limits on government are through how they can ask the PM, ministers or anybody else appropriate to appear to give evidence but the person does not have to show up. Also because they can now make

recommendations to the government and the government has to reply, but it does not have to follow what it says, therefore making it have little use a lot of the time. Overall, UK Select Committees have few limits on the Government's powers, and the government has few limits over all.

In comparison, the US executive branch is the President, currently Democrat ~~Obama~~ Barack Obama, and he suffers checks and balances from the both the Legislative & and Judicial Branches. The President is elected separately from the ~~to~~ two houses in Congress - House of Representatives and the Senate, and so sometimes the Congress is a different party, camp from the President. In fact, this is the case now since the 2014 mid ^{term} ~~electio~~ elections

Congress has been completely controlled by the Republicans and so Democrat President Obama will find it extremely difficult to pass new legislation and his last two years of presidency will be his 'lame duck' years. The fact that Congress can be controlled by a different party from the President limits the Executive's powers as it means few of the laws will be passed. However, the President has the power to veto any bill passed by Congress. For example, Bill Clinton vetoed a bill on Stem Cell Research. The Executive's powers are also limited through Congressional Committees. These committees are strong, well staffed, have significant budgets and have the legal power to pause, amend and even stop legislation. They can also ~~legally~~ have the ^{legal} power to call people up to give evidence under oath.

Congressional Committees limit the Executive's powers because they are there to review and scrutinise the work of the president and Congress. They can also stop legislation from being passed. A final way in which the Executive branch in the US has its powers limited is through the Judicial Branch, their job is to the 9 justices of the Supreme Court review any Act of Congress to evaluate whether or not it is constitutional.

In conclusion "the Executive has few limits on its power" only really applies to the UK branch of government where there are little power restrictions due to the fact government is created at the same time as Parliament as both are made up of MPs and Life Peers.

The statement doesn't apply to the US branch of President as there are many checks and balances placed on the President by Congress (Legislature) and Supreme Court (Judicial).