Checks and Balances in the Constitution

Each branch has some power (a check) over the other two, which would act to keep any one branch from acquiring too much power.

Executive branch

(President)
- vetoes laws enacted by legislature
- appoints judges

Legislative branch
(Congress)
- over-rides a Presidential veto
- impeaches a President
- confirms appointment of judges
- exclude Supreme Court from jurisdiction (Art. III, Sec. 2)

Judicial branch
(Courts)
- declares an action of the President unconstitutional
- declare a law enacted by Congress unconstitutional