

U.S. Government

Unit 3: Congress

Guiding Questions

1. How do leaders of Congress control the legislative agenda?
2. Explain how the committee system of Congress acts as system to keep a check on the bureaucracy, as well as vetting and compromising on legislation.
3. How are laws created, managed in each house of the legislature, defeated and passed?
4. Be able to describe reapportionment, redistricting, and gerrymandering.

Reading Schedule

2/7 Wednesday: Chapter 10 section 4

2/12 Monday: Chapter 12 section 1

2/13 Tuesday: Chapter 12 section 2

2/14 Wednesday: Chapter 12 section 3

2/15 Thursday: Chapter 12 section 4

Test on Congress: Wednesday, February 21st

-Be familiar with the following general terms: bicameral, adjourn, constituency, override, reapportionment, redistricting, gerrymandering

-Be familiar with the election rules, qualifications for, and number of members of the House and Senate: continuous body, number of years a U.S. citizen, age, residency requirement, continuous body, demographics of most Senators and Representatives

-Be familiar with the meaning and application of the following approaches to making legislative decisions: delegate, trustee, partisan, politico

-Be familiar with the following positions within Congress: Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, President pro tempore, floor leader, whip, committee chairman, majority leader, minority leader

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-Be familiar with the following functions of each of the following: party caucus, House rules committee, standing committee, select committee, joint committee, conference committee, subcommittee, Committee of the Whole

-Be familiar with the following congressional elements: joint resolution, seniority rule, concurrent resolution, rider, quorum, oversight function, filibuster, cloture

-Be prepared to answer the guiding questions