

## Set 1

Match the following terms and descriptions:

4. The system under which committee chairs are awarded to members who have the longest continuous service on the committee
  5. An assembly of party representatives that chooses a government and discusses major national issues
  6. Explanation of congressional voting which suggests members of Congress respond primarily to cues provided by their colleagues
  7. An alliance of conservative Democrats with Republicans for voting purposes
  8. Indicated by votes in which a majority of voting Democrats oppose a majority of voting Republicans
  9. A rule issued by the Rules Committee that does not allow a bill to be amended on the House floor
  10. Resolution used for matters such as establishing the rules under which each body will operate
  11. Resolution used for settling housekeeping and procedural matters that affect both houses
  12. Resolution that is essentially the same as a law and is used to propose constitutional amendments
- a. attitudinal view
  - b. bicameral legislature
  - c. closed rule
  - d. cloture rule
  - e. Committee on Committees
  - f. concurrent resolution
  - g. congressional caucus
  - h. conservative coalition
  - i. discharge petition
  - j. filibuster
  - k. House Rules Committee
  - l. joint resolution
  - m. marginal districts
  - n. markup
  - o. Millionaire's Club
  - p. multiple referral
  - q. organizational view
  - r. Parliament
  - s. party caucus
  - t. party polarization
  - u. party vote
  - v. party whip

13. A means by which senators can extend debate on a bill in order to prevent or delay its consideration
  14. Explanation of congressional voting which emphasizes the impact of personal ideology and party identification as a voting cue
  15. A Senate rule offering a means for stopping a filibuster
  16. A rule issued by the Rules Committee that permits some amendments to a bill but not to others
  17. Committee revisions of a bill
  18. An association of members of Congress created to advocate a political ideology or a regional or economic interest
  19. An individual who assists the party leader in staying abreast of the concerns and voting intentions of the party members
  20. Assigns Republicans to standing committees in the Senate
  21. Explanation of congressional voting that is based on the assumption that members want to get reelected and vote to please their constituents
  22. The group that decides what business comes up for a vote and what the limitations on debate should be
  23. A means by which the House can remove a bill stalled in committee
  24. The process through which a bill is referred to several committees that simultaneously consider it in whole or in part
  25. Assigns Democrats to standing committees in the Senate
  26. A meeting of the members of a political party to decide questions of policy
  27. The extent to which members of a party vote together in the House or the Senate
- w. representational view
  - x. restrictive rule
  - y. riders
  - z. safe districts
  - aa. seniority
  - bb. sequential referral
  - cc. simple resolution
  - dd. Steering Committee

28. A lawmaking body composed of two chambers or parts
29. Districts in which the winner got less than 55 percent of the vote
30. Unrelated amendments added to a bill
31. Districts in which the winner got more than 55 percent of the vote
32. The process through which a bill is referred to second committee after the first is finished acting
33. A traditional, pejorative name for the United States Senate

## Set 2

Match the following terms and descriptions:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The legislative leader elected by party members holding the majority of seats in the House or Senate</li> <li>2. Congressional committees appointed for a limited time period and purpose</li> <li>3. The ability of members of Congress to mail letters to their constituents free of charge</li> <li>4. A congressional voting procedure that consists of members answering yea or nay to their names</li> <li>5. The legislative leader elected by party members holding a minority of seats in the House or Senate</li> <li>6. A committee on which both representatives and senators serve</li> <li>7. Legislation that deals with matters of general concern</li> <li>8. An order from the Rules Committee in the House that permits a bill to be amended on the legislative floor</li> <li>9. A method of voting used in both houses in which members vote by shouting yea or nay</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Christmas tree bill</li> <li>b. conference committees</li> <li>c. division vote</li> <li>d. double tracking</li> <li>e. franking privilege</li> <li>f. joint committee</li> <li>g. majority leader</li> <li>h. minority leader</li> <li>i. open rule</li> <li>j. pork barrel legislation</li> <li>k. private bill</li> <li>l. public bill</li> <li>m. quorum call</li> <li>n. roll call vote</li> <li>o. select committees</li> <li>p. standing committees</li> <li>q. teller vote</li> <li>r. voice vote</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

10. A congressional voting procedure in which members pass between two tellers, first the yeas and then the nays
11. A procedure to keep the Senate going during a filibuster; the disputed bill is shelved temporarily
12. A special type of joint committee appointed to resolve differences in the House and Senate versions of a piece of legislation
13. A bill that has many riders
14. A congressional voting procedure in which members stand and are counted
15. The permanent committees of each house with the power to report bills
16. Legislation that deals only with specific matters rather than with general legislative affairs
17. Legislation that gives tangible benefits to constituents in the hope of winning their votes
18. A calling of the role in either house of Congress to determine whether the number of members in attendance meets the minimum number required to conduct official business

## DATA CHECK

### Table 13.1 (Page 323): Blacks, Hispanics, and Women in Congress, 1971–2008

1. Which chamber generally features a greater number of blacks, Hispanics, and women?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which Congress featured the greatest number of blacks in the House of Representatives?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which Congress featured the greatest number of women in the House of Representatives?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which Congress featured the greatest number of women in the Senate?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Figure 13.1 (Page 325): Percentage of Incumbents Reelected to Congress

5. Generalize about the percentage of House members who have been reelected in elections from 1952 to 2004.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Generalize about the percentage of Senate members who have been reelected in elections from 1952 to 2004.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Which members of Congress tend to win with 60 percent or more of the vote?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PRACTICING FOR EXAMS

### TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONS

Read each statement carefully. Mark true statements *T*. If any part of the statement is false, mark it *F*, and write in the space provided a concise explanation of why the statement is false.

1. T F Congress derives from a Latin term that means “a coming together.”  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. T F In the United States, political parties exercise considerable control over the choice of who is nominated to run for congressional office.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. T F The critical decision for a member of parliament is whether or not to support the government.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. T F Political parties cannot discipline members of Congress who fail to support the party leadership.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. T F Members of the British House of Commons are poorly paid and have no offices of their own.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. T F Members of Congress are more concerned with their own constituencies than they are with the interests of any organized party.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. T F Congress was designed by the Founders in ways that almost inevitably make it popular with voters.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. T F The House has 335 members.  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. T F By the end of the nineteenth century, the House was known as the “Millionaires’ Club.”
- 
10. T F The Senate eventually agreed to a constitutional amendment that changed the manner in which its members were elected.
- 
11. T F The text suggests conservatives in the Senate monopolized the use of the filibuster for both lofty and self-serving purposes.
- 
12. T F The tradition of unlimited debate remains strong in the Senate.
- 
13. T F Congress has become less male and white.
- 
14. T F Serving in Congress had become a career by the 1930s.
- 
15. T F The Supreme Court struck down an effort by a state to impose term limits on its own members of Congress.
- 
16. T F Senators are more likely to lose bids for reelection than members of the House.
- 
17. T F In every election from 1968 to 1992, Republicans have gathered a higher percentage of the popular vote than they have the percentage of seats in the House of Representatives.
- 
18. T F Democrats tend to do exceptionally well in low-turnout districts.
- 
19. T F Studies suggest the incumbency advantage is worth about two to three points in an election today.
- 
20. T F During the 1980s, about forty members of Congress were charged with misconduct.
- 
21. T F The Conservative Coalition consisted of Republicans and certain Southern Democrats.
- 
22. T F A member’s final vote on a bill may conceal as much as it reveals.
- 
23. T F Members of Congress who win in close races are usually eager to vote the way their constituents want.
-

24. T F Senators are often less in tune with public opinion than members of the House.
- 
25. T F The Senate highlights the fact that the Republican Party is more deeply divided than the Democratic Party.
- 
26. T F Congress has become an increasingly ideological organization.
- 
27. T F The organizational explanation of how members of Congress vote has increased in importance.
- 
28. T F Today, members of the House are more likely to investigate and denounce each other.
- 
29. T F Leadership carries more power in the Senate than in the House.
- 
30. T F The votes of Republicans on the four impeachment articles against President Clinton did not even represent the views of their districts.
- 
31. T F Most congressional districts are not competitive.
- 
32. T F Members of the majority party could, in theory, occupy all of the seats on all of the committees.
- 
33. T F The Democratic Caucus changed the rules of Congress so that House chairmen were elected by secret ballot in party caucus.
- 
34. T F Republicans in Congress also implemented term limits for committee chairmen.
- 
35. T F In 1995, Republicans increased the number of committees in Congress.
- 
36. T F In a typical Congress, several hundred bills are introduced.
- 
37. T F Members of Congress are more likely to deal with one another through staff intermediaries than personally.
- 
38. T F Bills which feature the spending of a lot of money tend to move through Congress more quickly than others.
-

39. T F Pending legislation does not carry over from one Congress to the next.
- 
40. T F Most bills die in committee and they are often introduced only to get publicity for a member of Congress.
- 
41. T F Sequential referrals have slowed down the business of Congress considerably.
- 
42. T F Today, most bills are considered under strict time limits and no possibility of amendment from the floor.
- 
43. T F What the filibuster means in practice is that neither political party can control the Senate unless it has at least sixty votes.
- 
44. T F Most bills require a conference of committees from each house.
- 
45. T F Conferences tend to report bills that favor the Senate version.
- 
46. T F In most instances, the conference report on a bill is accepted by the respective chambers.
- 
47. T F The text suggests that the only way to get rid of congressional "pork" is to eliminate Congress altogether and replace it with a tightly controlled parliament.
- 

## MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Circle the letter of the response that best answers the question or completes the statement.

1. A person ordinarily becomes a candidate for representative or senator by
  - a. appealing to party leaders.
  - b. serving first in the state legislature.
  - c. serving in the state judiciary.
  - d. running in a primary election.
  - e. serving first in a government agency.
2. Whereas the principal work of a parliament is debate, that of a congress is
  - a. representation and action.
  - b. oversight and assessment.
  - c. administration.
  - d. investigation and reorganization.
  - e. discussion.



3. Contemporary critics of Congress disagree with the Framers' vision of Congress in that the critics
  - a. believe that Congress should normally proceed slowly in its deliberations.
  - b. believe that Congress should rarely act without guidance from the executive branch.
  - c. view Congress as designed to check and balance strong leaders in the executive branch.
  - d. wish to end policy gridlock by making Congress capable of speedily adopting sweeping changes in national policies.
  - e. wish to make changes to prevent the American political system from resembling a parliamentary system.
4. In the twentieth century, the trend in congressional decision-making has been toward
  - a. centralization.
  - b. increasing the power of the Speaker.
  - c. increasing the power of party leaders.
  - d. increasing the power of the president.
  - e. decentralization.
5. Until 1913 senators were
  - a. popularly elected.
  - b. picked by state legislatures.
  - c. appointed by state governors.
  - d. selected by the state judiciaries.
  - e. elected by the electoral college.
6. Which amendment changed the manner in which U.S. Senators are selected?
  - a. Tenth.
  - b. Fourteenth.
  - c. Fifteenth.
  - d. Seventeenth.
  - e. Twenty-first.
7. Originally, filibusterers were sixteenth century
  - a. auctioneers.
  - b. lawyers.
  - c. salesmen.
  - d. cavalrymen.
  - e. pirates.
8. The typical representative or senator is
  - a. white.
  - b. male.
  - c. Protestant.
  - d. a lawyer.
  - e. all of the above.
9. In 1994, Native American Ben Nighthorse Campbell
  - a. was elected to the Senate.
  - b. was elected to the House.
  - c. used radio programs to argue persuasively in favor of term limits.
  - d. was allowed to fill a congressional seat as the result of a resignation.
  - e. ran for seats in the House and the Senate simultaneously.

10. In the 1860s, being a congressman was not regarded as a “career” because
  - a. the federal government was not very important.
  - b. travel to Washington, D.C., was difficult.
  - c. the job did not pay well.
  - d. Washington was not generally considered a pleasant place to live.
  - e. all of the above.
11. Serving in Congress became a career by the
  - a. 1920s.
  - b. 1940s.
  - c. 1950s.
  - d. 1970s.
  - e. 1990s.
12. When a state attempted to impose term limits on its own members of Congress
  - a. four other states did the same.
  - b. a majority of states did the same.
  - c. Congress outlawed the practice.
  - d. the Supreme Court struck down the effort.
  - e. a majority of incumbents nationwide announced they would not seek reelection.
13. Political scientists define a “safe” district as one where the incumbent received \_\_\_ percent or more of the vote in the previous election.
  - a. 50
  - b. 55
  - c. 60
  - d. 65
  - e. 80
14. A new Congress convenes every \_\_\_ years.
  - a. 2
  - b. 3
  - c. 4
  - d. 6
  - e. 10
15. The evidence that the electoral fortunes of members of Congress are shaped by the redrawing of congressional districts is
  - a. compelling.
  - b. striking, but anecdotal.
  - c. long-standing.
  - d. irrefutable.
  - e. somewhat mixed, but convincing.
16. Today, few congressional votes feature the so-called “conservative coalition” because
  - a. congressmen are increasingly facing strong challengers in their bid for reelection.
  - b. members of Congress have generally become more moderate in terms of ideology.
  - c. very few votes have an ideological dimension.
  - d. the Republicans deeply offended Southern Democrats during the Carter administration.
  - e. almost all of the conservatives are now in the Republican party.

17. Studies have found correlations between constituency opinion and congressional roll-call votes on bills related to
  - a. civil rights.
  - b. foreign policy.
  - c. social welfare.
  - d. international trade
  - e. A and C.
18. When voting on matters where constituency interests or opinion are not vitally at stake, members of Congress respond primarily to voting cues provided by
  - a. their colleagues.
  - b. judicial rulings.
  - c. interest groups.
  - d. PACs.
  - e. administrative agencies.
19. During the 1950s and 1960s, the Senate was dominated by
  - a. northern senators.
  - b. liberal senators.
  - c. conservative Republicans.
  - d. southern senators.
  - e. freshman senators.
20. Beginning in the mid-1960s, \_\_\_\_\_ rose steadily in number, seniority and influence.
  - a. northern senators
  - b. liberal senators
  - c. conservative Republicans
  - d. southern senators
  - e. freshman senators
21. Beginning in the late 1970s, \_\_\_\_\_ began to regain seats in the Senate.
  - a. northern senators
  - b. liberal senators
  - c. conservative Republicans
  - d. southern senators
  - e. freshman senators
22. The increasingly ideological nature of the House means today's members are more likely to
  - a. consult with campaign managers before voting.
  - b. be influenced by PAC contributions when they vote.
  - c. serve on low-profile committees.
  - d. investigate and denounce each other.
  - e. sponsor legislation written by interest groups.
23. The real leadership in the Senate rests with the
  - a. majority leader.
  - b. president pro tempore.
  - c. managers.
  - d. vice president.
  - e. Senate whip.

24. In the House, the most important position is the
- majority leader.
  - manager.
  - Speaker.
  - president pro tempore.
  - floor leader.
25. In recent years, the Senate has become more hospitable to
- lawyers.
  - ideologues.
  - partisans.
  - state legislators.
  - freshmen.
26. An extreme example of party voting was the response to Clinton's 1993 budget plan in which every Republican in the
- House voted against it.
  - Senate voted for it.
  - House and Senate voted against it.
  - House and Senate voted for it.
  - House and Senate refused to vote on the matter at all.
27. The text suggests \_\_\_\_\_ are "a growing rival to the parties as a source of policy leadership."
- senior leadership councils
  - PAC-based think tanks
  - regional alliances
  - executive liaisons
  - congressional caucuses
28. The most important organizational feature of Congress is the
- party caucus.
  - floor leader.
  - committee structure.
  - legislative leadership program.
  - congressional campaign committee.
29. Each member of the House usually serves on \_\_\_ standing committees.
- 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 6
  - 7
30. The text suggests that closed rules, proxy voting and strong committee chairmen
- were desired by Democrats, but not the Republicans.
  - were a major campaign issue in 1976.
  - reduced the number of bills that were introduced in Congress.
  - made it easier to get things done.
  - enhanced the public reputation of Congress.

31. Which of the following is signed by the president and has the force of law?
- Simple resolution.
  - Concurrent resolution.
  - Parallel resolution.
  - Joint resolution.
  - A and B.
32. Which of the following is required in order to propose a constitutional amendment?
- Simple resolution.
  - Concurrent resolution.
  - Parallel resolution.
  - Joint resolution.
  - A and B.
33. The Constitution requires that “all bills for raising revenue shall ...
- originate in the House of Representatives.”
  - originate in the Senate.”
  - originate in Conference Committee.”
  - require a unanimous vote.”
  - be exempt from the veto of the President.”
34. In the House, a stalled bill can be extracted from a committee and brought to the floor by means of
- a discharge petition.
  - an extraction bill.
  - a committee rule.
  - cloture.
  - a unanimous consent vote.
35. The “Committee of the Whole” refers to
- a collection of committee chairs in the House.
  - the senior sponsors of a piece of legislation.
  - freshmen members of both the House and the Senate.
  - members of the House who happen to be on the floor when a bill is discussed.
  - none of the above.
36. The practical advantage of the “Committee of the Whole” is that
- committee chairs have greater understanding of parliamentary procedure.
  - senior members of Congress are probably more enthusiastic supporters of legislation.
  - new members of Congress are made to feel more welcomed in chambers.
  - it requires a much smaller number of members to hold quorum.
  - none of the above.
37. In recent years, the filibuster has occurred more frequently because
- the Senate has increased in size.
  - Republicans have gained seats in the Senate.
  - Democrats have gained seats in the Senate.
  - participants are guaranteed media exposure.
  - it is easier to stage one.

38. Bills which contain a large number of “riders” are known as “\_\_\_\_\_ bills.”
- Loaded
  - Constituency
  - Valentine
  - Dry Ice
  - Christmas Tree
39. The process of “double tracking” allows
- committees to consider recently rejected legislation within a limited time frame.
  - members of the House to filibuster two bills at the same time.
  - the president to influence congressional votes at the beginning and end of the legislative session.
  - members of the Senate to focus on other business during a filibuster.
  - freshmen members of Congress two chances to pass their first piece of legislation.
40. For years Congress defended the manner in which it exempted itself from many of its own laws by reference to
- federalism.
  - bicameralism.
  - the separation of powers.
  - legislative supremacy.
  - the committee structure.
41. According to the text, most categories of pork spending have \_\_\_\_\_ in the last ten or fifteen years.
- decreased
  - remained at approximately the same levels
  - increased
  - slightly increased
  - dramatically increased

## ESSAY QUESTIONS

Practice writing extended answers to the following questions. These test your ability to integrate and express the ideas that you have been studying in this chapter.

- Compare and contrast membership in Parliament with membership in the U.S. Congress.
- Explain what a “filibuster” is and how “Rule 22” applies to filibusters.
- Generalize about the social background characteristics of the typical member of Congress and describe recent trends in membership.
- What are some explanations that scholars provide for why congressional seats have become less marginal?
- Identify and explain the three views of congressional voting.
- Why are members of Congress strong liberals and conservatives while the American people are usually somewhere in the center?
- Explain the three types of resolutions that Congress can pass.
- Explain the four procedures for voting in Congress.
- Identify 5-6 rules with respect to Congressional ethics.