Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative branch of government.

- Cite the formal qualifications for representatives and senators listed in the Constitution.
- Compare the terms of office for each chamber of Congress and explain the Founders’ intent.
- Explain the functions of various leadership positions and committees within the legislature.

**SENATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Membership in Senate</th>
<th>100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Reps for each state</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of terms</td>
<td>6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Requirement</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship requirement</td>
<td>Citizen for 9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residency requirement</td>
<td>Live in the state you represent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constituents (who they represent)</td>
<td>The State</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Membership in Senate</th>
<th>435</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Reps for each state</td>
<td>Based on Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of terms</td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Requirement</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship requirement</td>
<td>Citizen for 7 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residency requirement</td>
<td>Live in the district you represent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constituents (who they represent)</td>
<td>The people in the District</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Determining Representatives:**

- **Census** - Counting the population every 10 years
- **Reapportion** - Redistributing representatives based on new population totals
- **Redistrict** - District lines are redrawn due to population changes and to account for possible addition or subtraction of representative districts
- **Gerrymander** - drawing district lines based on some characteristic other than just population
  - Discriminatory gerrymandering is determined based on misrepresentation of the population.

*the Government Classroom*
Terms and Sessions:
What was the Founder’s Intent on Term Limits?

For Term Limits – to prevent corruption
Against Term Limits – to allow for experience to increase effectiveness

• How long is a Congressional Term? 2 years
• How many sessions are in one term? 2 sessions
• What is a Recess? A temporary break

Types of Sessions:
• Daily Session: The routine day with normal business.
• Executive Session: The portion of most days is given to consider treaties or presidential nominations.
• Closed Session: also referred to as secret sessions, are used to debate confidential information, such as classified material dealing with national security, and for impeachment trials.
• Pro Forma Session: meaning “as a matter of form,” it is a brief meeting for only a few minutes.
• Joint Session: When the Senate and the House meet together to conduct business, to hear an address by the president, or to count electoral ballots.
  o Ex.=“State of the Union” Called by president
• Extraordinary Session: occurs when the president exercises his constitutional authority to call Congress back into session during a recess or after a sine die adjournment.
• Special Session: When the Senate convenes an extra session, following sine die adjournment.
  o Adjournment Sine Die - The end of a legislative session "without day." These adjournments are used to indicate the final adjournment of an annual or the two-year session of a Congress.
• Lame Duck Session: when Congress reconvenes following the November elections. Among the lawmakers who return are those who were defeated for reelection or chose not to run again.

Types of Representation:
• Delegate – votes the way the people (constituents) would vote
• Trustee – votes the way they believe, they are the professional
• Partisan – votes the way the party wants them to vote
• Politico – votes the way that will help them get reelected
Congressional Leadership
Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative branch and leaders at the state and local level.

Leadership in the United States Senate

**PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE - The Vice President of the United States**
Job: Presiding Officer of the Senate, Breaks tie in legislation. Otherwise does not vote.

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**
Usually most senior member of the Senate majority party
Job: Presides over the Senate when the Vice President is absent.

<table>
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<th>Majority Leader - Selected by majority party.</th>
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<td>Job: Leads the majority party, shepherds legislation, determines committees and job</td>
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<th>Minority Leader - Selected by minority party.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Job: Leads the minority party and leads opposition</td>
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Leadership in the House of Representatives

**SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE - Selected by the majority party**
Job: Presiding Officer of the House, Decides which committee a bill goes to, Makes Committee Assignments, Leader of the majority party when the President is from the other party.

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**Whips - Job:** Tells party members how they should vote and counts votes.

Current Leadership:
- President of the Senate: _________________________
- President Pro Tempore: _________________________
- Speaker of the House: _________________________

The State’s Representation:
- Senator _________________________
- Senator _________________________
- Number of Congressional Districts = __________.
- You are currently represented in District _______ by Representative _________________________

**Secretary of Senate / Clerk of House**
- Top administrator
- **Parliamentarian** keeps rule on debate.
- **Chaplain** prays before debate.
- **Sergeant at Arms** keeps order.
- **Official Reporters** writes every single word in meeting.
- **Post Master** sees that everything is distributed.
Congressional Committees:

**Standing Committee** – a permanent committee that has legislative jurisdiction over certain areas of policy such as health, education, energy, the environment, foreign affairs, and agriculture.

- Each standing committee creates several Subcommittees to handle specific areas of the committee’s work.

**Select Committee** - established by the House or the Senate for limited periods and limited purposes. After completing its assigned task the select committee dissolves. Tasks may include:

- Confirmation or rejection of presidential nominees
- Holding oversight hearings - investigating a government activity and writing a report

**Joint Committee** - members are chosen from both the House and Senate to serve on a committee together to oversee areas of the government.

- Select and Joint Committees generally handle oversight or housekeeping responsibilities.

Committee Structure:

- The **Majority Party** selects the **Committee Chair** and a majority of its members are in the Majority Party.
- The chair primarily controls a committee’s business.
- Each party assigns its own members to committees (usually based on seniority and expertise), and each committee distributes its members among its subcommittees.
- Each chamber of Congress has its own guidelines and each committee adopts its own rules.

**Congressional Rules:**

- **Loyalty** - to chamber, must keep congressional secrets from press
- **Civility** – must treat each other with respect
- **Seniority** – the most senior members get choice of assignments
- **Specialization** – become an expert in certain committee areas
- **Reciprocity (Log Rolling)** - support for each other’s bills

**Compensation and Benefits:**

- **Salaries**: The current salary for rank-and-file members of the House and Senate is **$174,000** per year.
  - Speaker of the House - $223,500 / Other Leaders - $193,400
  - Increases as cost of living does. (27th Amendment)
  - Pension Plan and Retirement Income – 80% of the highest 3 years of salary
  - Outside Income allowed
Congressional Powers

I. Legislative Powers (Article 1 Section 8 Clauses 1-17)
   A. Sovereign Powers
      • Provide for common defense
      • Make rules on citizenship
      • Run Armed Services
      • Declare War
      • Over Washington D.C.
   B. Financial Powers
      • Raise Money
      • Regulate Trade
         o Duties – taxes on imports / Excises – taxes on particular goods
      • Spend Money
   C. Regulate Commerce
      • Coin and set standards on money
      • Post Office
      • Copy Rights and Patents
   D. Powers over Courts
      • Establish Federal Courts
      • Set number of Supreme Court Justices

II. Non-Legislative Powers
   • Advise and Consent
      o Presidential Appointments (V.P., Justices, and Cabinet)
      o Formal Agreements with Foreign Nations (Treaties)
   • Impeachment (Majority in House) / Convict and Remove Federal Officials (2/3rds in Senate)
   • Admit New States to the Union
   • Amend the Constitution
   • Counts Electoral Votes
      o If no majority: -the House will elect the Pres. / the Senate will elect the V.P.
   • Gov. “Watchdog” – Congressional committees can hold hearings and investigations, call witnesses, and make recommendations.