

## Congress – House and Senate

### Describe the different structures, powers and functions of each house of Congress.

1. Enumerated powers given to Congress in the Constitution include all of the following EXCEPT
  - a. Override Supreme Court opinions
  - b. Declare war
  - c. Collect taxes
  - d. Regulate interstate commerce
  
2. In broad terms the U.S. Congress has all of the following responsibilities EXCEPT
  - a. Make laws
  - b. Constituent service
  - c. Conduct oversight investigations
  - d. Power of the sword
  
3. What enumerated power has been used more than any other to expand the authority of Congress?
  - a. Override Supreme Court opinions
  - b. Declare war
  - c. Collect taxes
  - d. Regulate interstate commerce
  
4. Which of the following groups would be most likely to oppose Congress' broad use of the necessary and proper clause?
  - a. Democrats
  - b. Libertarians
  - c. Republicans
  - d. Supreme Court justices
  
5. Who in Congress assists legislators by studying the impact of prospective legislation?
  - a. General Accounting Office (GAO)
  - b. Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
  - c. Congressional Research Service (CRS)
  - d. Congressional Research Fund (CRF)
  
6. What is true of all REVENUE bills in Congress?
  - a. Pass without the consent of the president
  - b. Must be introduced by the majority party
  - c. Must be introduced in the House
  - d. Must originate in the Senate finance committee
  
7. This type of committee reconciles differences between House and Senate bills before they are sent to the president for signing
  - a. Select committee
  - b. Standing committee
  - c. Conference committee
  - d. Committee of the whole

8. Members of Congress have a number of responsibilities. When they propose bills they are fulfilling their duty to

- a. Make laws
- b. Congressional oversight
- c. Constituent Service
- d. Reapportion Districts

9. Members of Congress have many different duties and responsibilities. When Tom takes time during his days in Congress to investigate the president's use of an executive order he is performing this duty

- a. Making laws
- b. Oversight
- c. Constituent service
- d. Partisan leader

10. Members of Congress have many different duties and responsibilities. When Tom takes time during his days in Congress to help someone back home who is struggling with their Passport application he is performing this duty

- a. Making laws
- b. Oversight
- c. Constituent service
- d. Partisan leader

11. How many days does the president have to decide on a proposed bill that has passed both Houses of Congress?

- a. 10 days
- b. 20 days
- c. 30 days
- d. 50 days

12. Who has the biggest advantage in the legislative process?

- a. Leadership
- b. Opposition
- c. Majority party
- d. Senate

13. A filibuster in the Senate is ended by a

- a. Discharge petition
- b. Cloture vote
- c. Mark up by the Leadership
- d. Closed rule

**Critical Thinking Prompt:** Why did our Founding Fathers create a bicameral legislature? What are the advantages and disadvantages today for maintaining a bicameral legislature?