Name:

Congress A Study Guide

Chapter 10

1. Why did the Framers of the Constitution create a bicameral Congress?

2. In which chamber is each state represented according to population?

3. What proportion of senate terms expires every two years?

- 4. What was the main idea of the Supreme Court ruling in Wesberry v. Sanders?
- 5. Compare/Contrast the size of the House and Senate?
- 6. Which part of the Senate is up for election at any one time?

7. What theory are members of Congress following when they vote according to what they believe the voters want?

- 8. Compare/Contrast the terms of the House and Senate?
- 9. Who elects the Speaker of the House of Representatives?

10. Seats in the House are reapportioned every 10 years. What government document is used to determine how many seats a state will receive?

- 11. How did the Framers diffuse the power of Congress?
- 12. What was the effect of the Reapportionment Act of 1929 on the House of Representatives?
- 13. Why does the Constitution allow only two senators from each state?
- 14. What is the goal of Article 1, Section 6 of the Constitution?
- 15. How were Senators chosen prior to 1913?

16. When members of Congress cast their votes in line with their party's platform and the views of party leaders, what theory are they following?

17. Besides screening bills, what is another major function that members of Congress perform as committee members?

18. When members of Congress assist their constituents, what role are they fulfilling?

19. What is the minimum number of representatives in Congress that a state can have?

Chapter 11

20. The federal government often spends more money than it takes in each year. It then borrows money to make up the difference. What is this called?

Which clause is important because it is the basis for the existence of implied powers?

21. According to the Constitution, who has the main responsibility for foreign policy?

22. According to the Constitution, how can the US declare war?

- 23. Which type of congressional powers are clearly spelled out in the Constitution?
- 24. Why does Congress have powers in the area of foreign policy?
- 25. What is the public debt (definition not amount)?

26. Some congressional power are not written in the Constitution but are suggested by the powers written there. What are they called?

- 27. How could Congress realistically reduce deficit financing?
- 28. Why did Congress pas the War Powers Resolution after the Vietnam War?
- 29. What is the federal government's power to take private property called?
- 30. What type of power would liberal and strict constructionists disagree over?

- 31. What is Congress' role in making treaties with foreign policy?
- 32. If no candidate receives a majority of the electoral votes for President, what happens?
- 33. Once a President has been impeached, what happens next?
- 34. Where has Congress found the authority to regulate wages and hours in the workplace?
- 35. How does Article 5 allow for the proposal of amendments to the Constitution?
- 36. Which President(s) have been impeached?
- 37. After the Vice-President, who is next in line to become President of the US?
- 38. Who must approve Presidential appointments?

Chapter 12

- 39. What is the name for a closed meeting of the members of each party in each house?
- 40. Why does the House have so many calendars and rule?

41. Which rule provides that the most important posts will be held by those party members with the longest records of service in Congress

- 42. What is the purpose of the conference committee?
- 43. Why is the House Rules Committee so powerful?
- 44. What does the House do with a bill after its first reading?
- 45. How can a majority of members of the House force a bill to the floor that has been buried in committee?
- 46. After a bill comes out of a standing committee, what is the next step in getting it to the floor of the House for consideration?
- 47. What is a filibuster?
- 48. What is the title of the presiding officer of the House of Representatives?
- 49. What is the title of the presiding officer of the Senate?
- 50. What do party whips do?
- 51. Which is an important factor in the selection of committee chairmen?
- 52. Why are committee chairmen important in the legislative process?
- 53. What is the purpose of the House Rules Committee?
- 54. Members of the House and Senate may form a committee to work together on a certain issue such as

taxation or economy. What type of committee is this?

55. What are measures that do not carry the force of law, apply to only one house, and do not require the President's signature?

- 56. How does debate in the Senate differ from debate in the House?
- 57. What happens to most bills that are referred to committee?
- 58. What happens to a bill in the House after a third reading and a final vote of approval?
- 59. Senator Strom Thurmond held up the Civil Rights Act of 1957 by using what action?
- 60. Bills for raising revenue must originate in which chamber?
- 61. How can Congress override a presidential veto?