

Multiple Choice
Congress

1. Incumbents are generally reelected because they
 - a. have high name recognition.
 - b. can take advantage of government research staffs and information.
 - c. have greater access to the media.
 - d. (all of the above)

2. A "franking privilege" refers to the
 - a. ability of incumbents to be more "frank" with the voters.
 - b. public's acceptance of a certain amount of political-speak by the congressperson to the media.
 - c. right to free mailings.
 - d. (none of the above)

3. If a district is predictably won by one party, it is called a
 - a. sure bet.
 - b. safe seat.
 - c. easy win.
 - d. candidate's dream.

4. District lines for the House of Representatives are drawn with the authority of the
 - a. Constitution.
 - b. Senate.
 - c. House of Representatives.
 - d. State governments.

5. Redistricting of congressional constituencies occurs
 - a. whenever there is a major population shift.
 - b. whenever the state government calls for redistricting.
 - c. every ten years after each national census.
 - d. every twenty years regardless of population movement or the national census.

6. The membership of the House of Representatives is
 - a. 100.
 - b. 250.
 - c. 435.
 - d. 567.

7. The term of a Senator is
 - a. two years.
 - b. four years.
 - c. six years.
 - d. eight years.

8. The largest occupation group of the 105th Congress was
 - a. private and corporate business persons.
 - b. professional politicians.
 - c. attorneys.
 - d. teachers

9. The religion most represented in Congress is
 - a. Jewish.
 - b. Protestant.
 - c. Catholic.
 - d. (other)

10. Compared to the percentage of other ethnic, racial and gender groups, the group most seriously under-represented in relation to their proportion of the U.S. population are
 - a. women.
 - b. African-Americans.
 - c. Hispanics.
 - d. farmers and other agriculturists.

11. The requirements for the legislative branch of government are found in
 - a. Article 1 of the Constitution.
 - b. Article II of the Constitution.
 - c. Article III of the Constitution.
 - d. Article IV of the Constitution.

12. The House of Representatives was expected to
 - a. reflect the popular will of the average citizen.
 - b. provide stability and continuity.
 - c. stem the populist impulses of the majority.
 - d. counter the influence of state governments.

13. The power to confirm presidential nominations is that of the
 - a. House.
 - b. Senate.
 - c. both House and Senate.
 - d. Supreme Court.

14. The direct election of Senators was established with the
 - a. signing of the Constitution.
 - b. addition of the Bill of Rights.
 - c. 13th Amendment.
 - d. 17th Amendment.

15. All of the following pertain to the Senate EXCEPT
 - a. six year terms for 100 members.
 - b. more flexible rules.
 - c. fewer personal staff.
 - d. more personal staff.

16. The functions of Congress include
 - a. representation.
 - b. law making.
 - c. consensus building.
 - d. (all of the above)

17. The presiding officer in the House of Representatives is the
 - a. Speaker.
 - b. president pro tempore.
 - c. Vice-President.
 - d. leader of the loyal opposition.

18. The first Republican Speaker in forty years was
 - a. Robert Dole.
 - b. Newt Gingrich.
 - c. Bruce Babbitt.
 - d. Al Gore.

19. Individuals who help plan party strategy and serve as the head of the party in Congress are called
 - a. whips.
 - b. majority and minority leaders.
 - c. committee chairmen.
 - d. rules chairmen.

20. The job of "whip" is to
 - a. make sure all members of the party support the party platform.
 - b. make certain all members of the party show up to vote on specific items of party interest.
 - c. serve as liaison between the house leadership of the party and the rank-and-file.
 - d. reprimand individuals who behave in a less-than-honorable way.

21. The Rules Committee performs its functions in the
 - a. entire Congress.
 - b. House of Representatives.
 - c. Senate.
 - d. writing of committee rules.

22. When compared to the House, the Senate
 - a. has more rules.
 - b. is less flexible.
 - c. is more prestigious.
 - d. has less time for debate.

23. The formal responsibility of president of the Senate belongs to the
 - a. president pro tempore.
 - b. Vice President.
 - c. majority party leader.
 - d. senior member of the Senate.

24. The right to unlimited debate
 - a. is found in the Senate but not the House.
 - b. is called the "filibuster."
 - c. can be subject to cloture.
 - d. (all of the above)

25. The term "senatorial courtesy" refers to
 - a. the rules of behavior in the Senate.
 - b. accepting the right of another Senator to interrupt debate.
 - c. the president's conferring with a Senator regarding a nomination.

- d. (all of the above)
26. Advantages of bicameralism include
- a. the ability to pass legislation quickly.
 - b. representation of smaller constituencies and moderating influence.
 - c. the perception that government moves expeditiously to solve problems.
 - d. the principles of equal representation.
27. When a Congress person believes his job definition to be that of delegate rather than trustee he or she is likely to
- a. try to closely follow the attitudes of his or her constituents.
 - b. not have the welfare and interest of the whole country in mind.
 - c. be narrowly focused.
 - d. (all of the above)
28. When a member of Congress votes with a colleague in the expectation that the colleague will later vote for a measure about which the member is concerned it is called
- a. pork barrel.
 - b. log rolling.
 - c. horse trading.
 - d. swapping.
29. The job of a congressional staff person is to
- a. draft bills.
 - b. conduct research.
 - c. help build coalitions.
 - d. (all of the above)
30. Members of Congress generally vote
- a. in response to constituent needs.
 - b. for what they believe will be best for the country.
 - c. with their party.
 - d. in response to their own interests.
31. If the full House debates a bill and passes it but it is different from the Senate version, it must go to a
- a. standing committee.
 - b. special committee.
 - c. conference Committee.
 - d. compromise committee.
32. After a bill is introduced and assigned to a committee, it is assigned to a
- a. standing committee.
 - b. subcommittee.
 - c. conference committee.
 - d. special committee.
33. The real work of Congress is said to be done in
- a. full sessions of Congress.
 - b. the legislators' home.
 - c. conference with the President.
 - d. committee.

34. Permanently established legislative committees that review proposed legislation and report bills and resolutions to their chamber are called
- a. standing committees.
 - b. special committees.
 - c. permanent committees.
 - d. select committees.
35. Members of Congress are assigned to committees by the
- a. Committee on Committees.
 - b. Steering and Policy Committee.
 - c. Speaker of the House and president pro tempore of the Senate.
 - d. (a and b)