

Development of Congressional Powers

Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 1. Laws for raising money for the federal government are called
a. revenue bills. c. appropriations bills.
b. oversight powers. d. impoundment.
- _____ 2. Proposed laws to authorize spending money are called
a. bills of attainder. c. revenue bills.
b. writs of habeas corpus. d. appropriations bills.
- _____ 3. If you think Congress had the power to charter the Second Bank of the United States, you believe in
a. loose construction. c. strict construction.
b. impoundment. d. impeachment.
- _____ 4. Witnesses who do not tell the truth can be prosecuted for
a. impeachment. c. perjury.
b. impoundment. d. contempt.
- _____ 5. This power allows Congress to check on how the executive is administering the law.
a. impoundment c. immunity
b. legislative oversight d. impeachment
- _____ 6. This action was found unconstitutional because it violated the separation of powers.
a. legislative veto c. legislative powers
b. presidential veto d. legislative override
- _____ 7. President Nixon used this to combat economic problems.
a. impoundment c. veto
b. wage and price freeze d. override
- _____ 8. In Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution, these powers of Congress are described.
a. writ of habeas corpus c. denied powers
b. expressed powers d. bills of attainder
- _____ 9. What implies that Congress has powers beyond those expressed in the first 17 clauses of Article I, Section 8?
a. expressed powers c. necessary and proper clause
b. writ of habeas corpus d. enumerated powers
- _____ 10. Setting the minimum wage comes under this power of Congress.
a. regulation of commerce c. naturalization
b. impeachment d. taxes
- _____ 11. What requires the president to notify Congress when committing military forces?
a. impoundment c. War Powers Act
b. separation of powers d. the Supreme Court
- _____ 12. A legal order that a person appear in court or produce requested documents is called
a. immunity. c. writ of habeas corpus.
b. contempt. d. subpoena.
- _____ 13. Freedom from prosecution for witnesses whose testimony ties them to illegal acts is called
a. contempt. c. writ of habeas corpus.
b. immunity. d. perjury.
- _____ 14. The president's refusal to spend appropriated funds is called
a. impeachment. c. presidential veto.
b. impoundment. d. contempt.

Short Answer

Critical Thinking

15. **Synthesizing Information** Explain why conflict between the president and Congress often continues when the same political party controls each branch.

Understanding Concepts

16. **Checks and Balances** Explain how the system of checks and balances slows down the process of government.
17. **Constitutional Interpretations** Explain how the Constitution's commerce clause permits Congress to require that all radio and TV stations be licensed by the federal government.

**Development of Congressional Powers
Answer Section**

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. A
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. A
11. C
12. D
13. B
14. B

SHORT ANSWER

15. Some conflict is inherent in the structure of government, regardless of party politics. The president speaks for all the people, while members of Congress represent the interests of narrower constituencies, even if both are of the same political party. In addition, House members have only two years to achieve their goals, compared to the president's four years and a senator's six-year term.
16. Under this system neither branch can act independently. Generally, both must be in agreement before something can be accomplished.
17. Because radio and TV signals often cross state lines, they fall under the broad definition of interstate commerce, thus giving Congress power to regulate the stations that broadcast them.