

U.S. Government

Organization of Congress – Chapters 5 (Section 1-4)

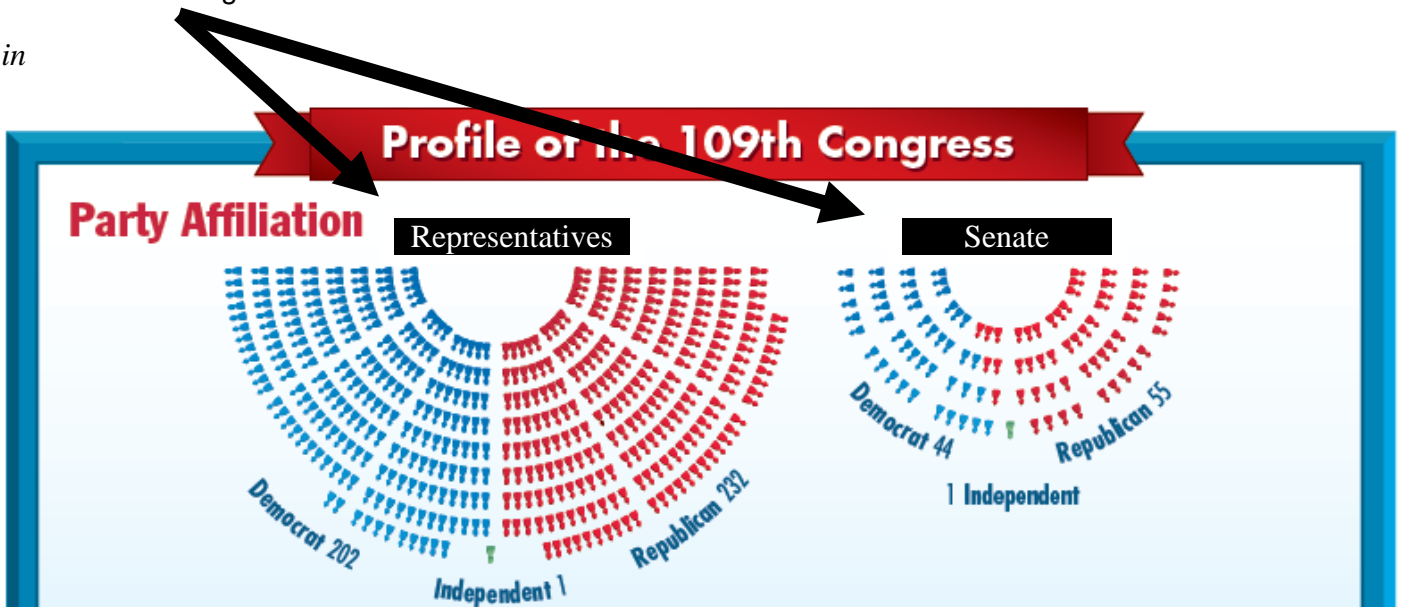
Matching

- Census** - Population count
- Seniority system** - Gave the member of the majority party with the longest uninterrupted service on a particular committee the leadership of that committee
- Quorum** - Minimum number of members who must be present to permit a legislative body to take official action
- Constituents** - The people in the districts they represent
- Whips** - Assistant floor leaders in the House
- Gerrymander** - The political party controlling the state government draws a district's boundaries to gain an advantage in elections
- Session** - Meetings lasting one year and includes breaks for holidays and vacations
- Filibuster** - Stall tactic to stall the legislative process and prevent a vote
- Bicameral Legislature** - Two houses
- Incumbent** - Those members already in office running for reelection

Fill in

1. Label the following:

Fill in



2. What are the qualifications for the following:

- A. Representatives: The Constitution sets the qualifications for election to the House of Representatives. Representatives must be at least 25 years old, be citizens of the United States for at least 7 years, and be legal residents of the state that elects them. Traditionally, representatives also live in the district they represent.
- B. Senators: The Constitution provides that senators must be at least 30 years old, citizens of the United States for 9 years before election, and legal residents of the state they represent. All voters of each state elect senators at-large, or statewide.

3. How does Congress reapportion House seats among the states every ten years?

The **Census Bureau** takes a national **census**, or population count, every 10 years. States with slow population growth or a population decrease may lose representatives, while states with more rapid population growth may gain representatives.

4. How does a representative introduce a bill in the House?

To introduce a bill in the House, representatives drop it into the **hopper**, a mahogany box that is accessible to all near the front of the chamber.

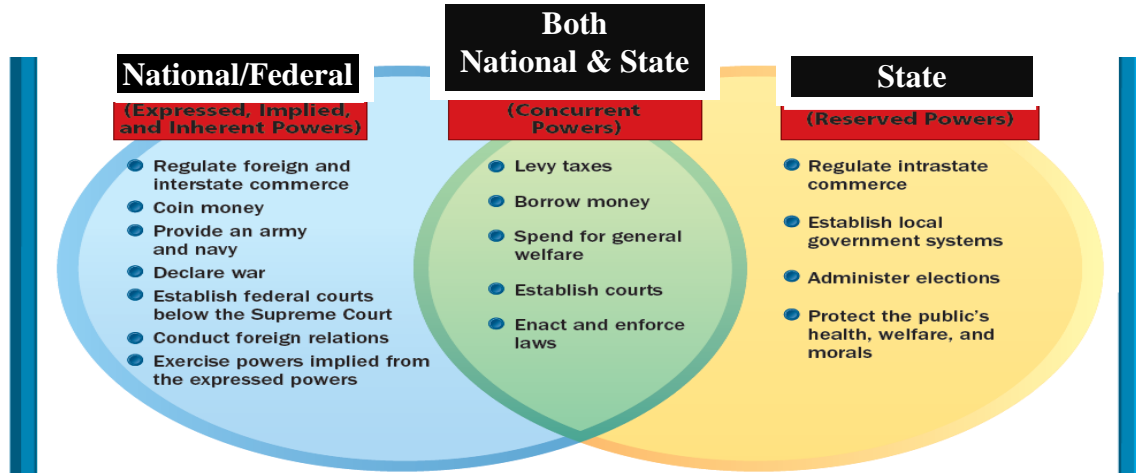
5. How does the Senate bring bills to the floor?

Procedures for moving bills through the Senate are more informal than in the House. Senate leaders control the flow of bills to committees and to the floor for debate and vote.

6. Name the four important powers of a committee chairperson.

- 1) They make the key decisions about the work of their committees—when their committees will meet, which bills they will consider, and for how long.
- 2) They decide when hearings will be held and which witnesses will be called to testify for or against a bill.
- 3) In addition, chairpersons may hire committee staff members and control the committee budget.
- 4) Finally, they manage the floor debates that take place on the bills that come from their committees.

7. Fill in the boxes below.



8. How many amendments are in the Constitution?

27

9. What are the three parts of the Constitution?

Preamble Articles Amendments

Week 5 of 13

The 4th quiz towards your midterm