

Test Review-

Organization of the House and Senate

Who makes the rules in the House and Senate

Why is the Senate viewed as more stable than the House?

Leadership positions

Speaker, Majority and Minority leaders and Whips

What power do each hold, how do they exercise those powers and what is the practical effect?

How did the House come to be 435 seats, under what circumstances could that number change and who would make the change?

Under what circumstances would a State's # of house members change?

What are the respective roles of the Central and State Governments in determining how many House members each State gets and then what the borders of the Congressional districts that come into effect are?

What is gerrymandering? How is it done? And why do some people feel that it has helped incumbents get reelected?

Why are Standing, Select and Joint committees developed? How do they differ from one another and what would be an example of each? You should be able to explain why that example requires a Standing, Select or Joint Committee

What do the committees do? How are the committees run, what is the power of the Majority Party in the committee, the Minority Party within the committee? How does one rise to positions of leadership w/in the committee and how can the committees effect legislation?

Why is the Rules, Ways and Means, and Budget Committees so important to any member of House trying to get a piece of legislation passed?

How does a discharge petition help explain the overwhelming power the majority party has in the House?

Give an example and be able to describe what is meant by constituency services, oversight and legislative acts.

Be able to give an example and describe how a Congressperson (house or senate member) may act as a Trustee/Delegate/ Partisan and/or Politico? You will need to give an example that sets forth specific facts that will help to explain your answer.

Where would a member of the House or Senate get information describing a Bill? Where would they get information about the Cost of a Bill?

In what way is Seniority important in the House and Senate?

Why can't members of Congress be sued for libel and/or slander for their work in Congress? Why did leaders of both parties of Congress object to the search by the Justice Dept (exec. Branch) of a Congressperson's office?

How is the Senate different from the House, in terms of organization and rules?

What is a Filibuster? What is Cloture and how are they related?

If the Democrats have a majority in the Senate and can easily get 51 or 52 votes in favor of a proposal why would still be difficult for them to pass a piece of legislation?

Why is there no Rules Committee in the Senate?

What's the length of term for a Senator? House member?

How many terms can either a Senator or House member serve?

Why is it a drag to be in the minority party in the House but not as bad in the Senate?

What is the power of the leadership in the House and Senate in creating a Joint Conference Committee?

Under what circumstances is a joint conference committee created?

Why are bills reconciled by a Joint Conference Committee generally passed by both branches of Congress without much problem?

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From the last test but brought back for this:

What is Federalism and what provisions in the Constitution give State's protection from the National government? NOTE THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE 3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT. Specifically, how do States have their own individual sovereignty, where in the Constitution does it limit the right of the national government to do certain activities, and where in the Constitution does it say the STATE governments have the right to enact laws of their own which the National Government can't trump?