

Homework 238-253 Due Thursday, 285 to 307 Due Tuesday 10/13 Balazs Gov

p. 238 -244

1. When are the house seats reapportioned?
2. How did the current number of house seats (435) come to be?
3. When is the next "off-year" relationship and based on the textbook and our discussions in class which party is likely to win seats?
4. While States establish Congressional Districts, there are certain requirements that over the years have been created. State what they are, and what they mean.
5. Explain why would a group of people want to gerrymander a district.
6. Give an example of how a State would violate the law if they didn't follow the case Wesbury?

p. 245-247

1. Why is the Senate called a "continuous body" while the House is not?
2. What gives the Senate (or House) the right to remove a member?

p. 248-253

1. To what extent do you think Congress reflects the diversity of the nation at large?
2. Give a real life example (you can make it up) of each one of the following terms
 - a. Constituency Services
 - b. Oversight
 - c. Legislators
3. Explain using a real life example (you can make it up) when a legislator acts as a
 - a. Trustee
 - b. Delegate
 - c. Partisan
 - d. Politico
4. Recently a congressman's (William Jefferson) office was searched (under warrant) for illegal bribes he may have received (\$100k) was found in a freezer. Both parties and branches of Congress complained vociferously about the search. What are the substantive arguments that Congress likely made?

P285- 307 Due Tuesday 10/13

1. How does one get to be Speaker of the House and what are their duties?
2. Why did one prospective VP say the VP office isn't worth a warm bucket of spit?
3. Under what circumstances would the Whip of a party get involved (give a real life example)?
4. Some say the real power in Congress lies in the power of the Chairman, explain.
5. Why was the prolonged fight for the Senator seat in Minnesota which Al Franken ended up winning such a liability for the State.
6. What is the purpose of
 - a. Standing Committees,
 - b. Select Committees
 - c. Joint Committees
7. Why is the House Rules Committee so important to a person wanting to pass a bill?
8. Under what circumstances would a discharge petition come into existence?
9. Compare the house rules for a quorum with the Committee of the Whole"
10. Describe the fundamental differences between voting and debating in the House and the Senate?
11. To what extent does the filibuster violate principles of democracy? How does one stop a filibuster .
12. What's the purpose of a joint Conference Committee and why do both houses of Congress generally go along with their final output?