**Unit 3 – Legislative Branch Study Guide**

1. What article of the Constitution is the legislative branch found in?
	* Article One
2. What are the qualifications to be a Senator?
	* Age – 30
	* Citizenship – 9 years
	* Residency – Live in the state you represent
3. What are the qualifications to be a Representative?
	* Age – 25
	* Citizenship – 7 years
	* Residency – Live in state you represent
4. How long is a Representative’s term? How long is a Senator’s term?
	* 2 years
	* 6 years
5. How many Senators does each state receive?
	* 2
6. How many members of the House does each state receive?
	* Varies; based on population
7. How many members are in the House of Representatives? How many members are in the Senate?
	* 435
	* 100
8. Why does the United States have a bicameral legislature? (3 reasons)
	* Historical – Great Britain had 2 houses
	* Practical – Compromise during Const. Convention
	* Theoretical – Check and Balance of power between the two
9. The number of representatives that a state has in the House of Representatives is based on what?
	* Population
10. What is reapportionment?
	* Appointing representatives to the states after each census
11. When does reapportionment happen?
	* Every 10 years
12. What is gerrymandering?
	* Drawing congressional districts to benefit a political party
13. Why is a senator’s term different in length than a representative’s term?
	* House is meant to be closer to the voters
14. Is the average member of Congress representative of the average American?
	* No
15. Why is the Senate considered a continuous body?
	* only 1/3 of the Senate’s seats are up for grabs on any given Congressional election
16. Know the roles of a Congressperson:
	* Delegate - They believe they should vote the way the people back home would want them to vote.
	* Trustee - Conscience and individual judgment guides this voting option.
	* Partisan - A person voting this way pays a large amount of attention to their party’s platform and party leadership.
	* Politico - This voting option combines the other three factors: the views of the person making the vote, the feelings of the constituents, and the feelings of the person’s party
17. Know the major Expressed Powers of Congress.
	* Regulate interstate commerce; Declare war; Levy and collect taxes; regulate military
18. What clause sets up the idea of Implied Powers?
	* Necessary and Proper Clause
19. Know the four types of committees in Congress:
	* Joint – committee that has members of the House and Senate on it
	* Conference – This type of committee is created to iron out differences between similar bills passed in both the House and Senate
	* Standing – This type of committee is a permanent committee that is always in existence.
	* Select – This type of committee is one that is created for a limited time and for a specific purpose, such as an investigation of national importance
20. Which body of Congress decides who becomes President in case of a tie or no majority?
	* House of Representatives
21. What is impeachment?
	* Bringing charges against a public official
22. What two Presidents have been impeached? What President has resigned?
	* Johnson, Clinton
	* Nixon
23. What is the title of the leader of the House of Representatives?
	* Speaker of the House
24. Who assists the majority and minority leaders in Congress?
	* Whips
25. How is the Speaker of the House more powerful than the President of the Senate?
	* Elected by the House
26. What is the other role of the President of the Senate?
	* Vice President
27. When does the President of the Senate vote?
	* In a tie
28. Bills can only be introduced by whom? Who can propose bills?
	* Members of Congress
	* Anyone
29. What is a filibuster?
	* Attempting to block the passage of a bill by “talking it to death”
30. What is cloture?
	* 3/5’s vote to end a filibuster
31. What are the steps for a bill to become a law?
	* The bill must be introduced on the floor of either the House or the Senate.
	* The bill is referred to appropriate committee.
	* The bill is debated on the floor of the house that it was introduced in. If it passes, it moves on.
	* The bill must go through all previous steps in the opposite house of Congress.
	* If necessary, the bill goes to a conference committee. The conference committee’s version of the bill is then voted on by Congress.
	* The President may choose to sign the bill into law, veto it, or not sign the bill.
32. What is a veto? What is a pocket veto?
	* Denying a bill from becoming law
	* Not signing a bill and Congress adjourns within 10 days, so it doesn’t become law
33. Which one of the six principles of government does the Presidential veto represent?
	* Checks and Balances
34. What are midterm elections?
	* Election of members of Congress without a President on the ballot
35. Which amendment deals with allowing people to directly elect their Senators?
	* 17th
36. Which amendment deals with not allowing Congress to vote for a raise for themselves during their current term of office?
	* 27th
37. Which amendment deals with Congress starting in January instead of March?
	* 20th
38. What is it called when a bill isn’t passed out of committee?
	* Killed/dies/dead