**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