

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

*Indicate whether the statement is true or false.*

- \_\_\_ 1. A member of the Senate who was elected for 6 terms would serve for 24 years.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 2. Congress is a bicameral legislature that provides checks and balances during the process of lawmaking.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 3. When an energy bill passes both the Senate and House, it is reviewed by a joint committee before being sent to the president.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 4. Someone who was born outside of the United States but becomes a U.S. citizen can become eligible to run for the U.S. Senate.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 5. Members of the Natural Resources Committee who work in states that extract coal are likely to request an assignment to the Energy and Mineral Resources subcommittee.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 6. Because bills related to natural resources are continually being introduced, the Natural Resources Committee is a select committee in the House.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 7. A single senator can prevent a bill from being brought to the Senate floor.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 8. Each committee has a chairperson, who is part of the majority party and makes key decisions about which bills to consider.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 9. Both the Senate and House of Representatives contain the same number of members from each state.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 10. State legislatures cannot use political factors as a basis for redistricting.
  - a. True
  - b. False

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 11. A member who is conducting a filibuster must remain on the Senate floor and debate the bill to prevent it from being voted on.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 12. A temporary study group set up out of the Natural Resources Committee to study the availability of natural gas would be a conference committee.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 13. If 50 senators vote for a cloture resolution, they can end a filibuster in most cases.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 14. The president pro tempore and the minority leader in the Senate are never the same person.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
- \_\_\_ 15. On both the Senate and House floors, members are limited in the amount of time they can debate a bill.
  - a. True
  - b. False

*Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

- \_\_\_ 16. Which of these is one duty of a standing committee chair?
  - a. assign members to the committee
  - b. control all meetings between members
  - c. manage floor debates on bills from their committees
  - d. testify about a bill within their committee
  
- \_\_\_ 17. A senator represents a northern industrial state that produces automobiles. Which of these committee assignments should the member request from party leadership in order to increase his chances of winning reelection?
  - a. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
  - b. Commerce, Science, and Transportation
  - c. Environment and Public Works
  - d. Small Business and Entrepreneurship
  
- \_\_\_ 18. Which of these Senate procedures requires cooperation between the parties?
  - a. cloture resolution
  - b. filibuster
  - c. placing holds
  - d. unanimous consent
  
- \_\_\_ 19. If a member wishes to have power over a bill after it has been passed, the member should request a position on which type of committee?
  - a. conference committee
  - b. joint committee
  - c. select committee
  - d. subcommittee of a standing committee

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 20. Which of these statements is true for both the House of Representatives and the Senate?
- a. Members get allowances to visit their states.
  - b. Members must be at least 30 years old.
  - c. Members represent a particular district.
  - d. Population dictates the number of members.
- \_\_\_ 21. When a bill comes to a vote on the House floor, you know that it has
- a. achieved a majority of members in support.
  - b. also been considered on the Senate floor.
  - c. been revised through the process of concurrent jurisdiction.
  - d. passed through the House Rules Committee.
- \_\_\_ 22. Which of these would *most likely* be a result of increasing the concentration of power within the office of the Speaker of the House?
- a. increase in accountability to the American people
  - b. increase in committees
  - c. increase in cooperation between parties
  - d. increase in unity within a party
- \_\_\_ 23. The U.S. House of Representatives, as part of a constitutional republic, requires which of the following?
- a. debate with all members allowed to participate
  - b. hearings for all bills by a committee of the whole
  - c. majority rule with little minority input
  - d. public records of all caucus meetings
- \_\_\_ 24. Why might a seat in the Senate be more attractive to a candidate than a seat in the House?
- a. Senators are paid more than House members.
  - b. Senators do not have to run for office as often.
  - c. Senators receive more benefits than House members.
  - d. The Senate spends less time in session than the House.
- \_\_\_ 25. A legislative director who wanted advice on the legality of a provision in an educational reform bill would contact which of these congressional support agencies?
- a. CBO (Congressional Budget Office)
  - b. CRS (Congressional Research Service)
  - c. GAO (Government Accountability Office)
  - d. GPO (Government Printing Office)
- \_\_\_ 26. Which committee staff member would be responsible for online publicity regarding the action of their committee?
- a. committee clerk
  - b. committee office manager
  - c. committee press secretary
  - d. committee staff director

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 27. A member of the House represents a district that contains the shale oil formation in North Dakota. Which of these committee assignments should the member request from party leadership, in order to increase her chances of winning reelection?
- a. Agriculture
  - b. Energy and Commerce
  - c. Homeland Security
  - d. Transportation and Infrastructure
- \_\_\_ 28. What is one way that the success of a political party during an election can influence which bills get to the House floor for a vote?
- a. An election allows people to directly vote on party officials who will control the House and submit bills.
  - b. An election determines the majority party, and only majority party members can submit bills.
  - c. An election determines which party will control the Rules Committee, which sets the calendar for bills to be heard on the House floor.
  - d. An election determines which party will hold committee chairs and have the ability to research and revise bills.
- \_\_\_ 29. Who might you MOST expect to see talking with the president about a particular house bill?
- a. constituent
  - b. majority leader
  - c. majority whip
  - d. Speaker of the House
- \_\_\_ 30. To virtually eliminate the threat of a filibuster, the Senate would have to have a minimum of how many members from one party?
- a. 50
  - b. 55
  - c. 60
  - d. 65
- \_\_\_ 31. Which of these actions might result in the expulsion of a member of the House?
- a. The member accepts money from a company to support a bill.
  - b. The member speaks in opposition to an energy bill on the Senate floor.
  - c. The member violates House rules by improperly using campaign donations.
  - d. The newly elected member has not turned 25 years old yet.
- \_\_\_ 32. "Tip" O'Neill did which of the following while serving in Congress?
- a. crafted rules for congressional behavior
  - b. introduced the Contract with America
  - c. presided over the House of Representatives
  - d. presided over the Senate
- \_\_\_ 33. Personal staff and subcommittee staff may both do which of the following?
- a. collect information and draft bills
  - b. manage the schedule of members
  - c. prepare and release publications about laws
  - d. take care of requests from constituents

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 34. One political party has consistently won a House seat within a particular district with 75–80% of the vote. Then, one year, the other party wins the seat with 85% of the vote. This result could be evidence of which of the following?
- a. censure
  - b. gerrymandering
  - c. incumbent advantage
  - d. reapportionment
- \_\_\_ 35. Which is a key difference between the Senate and the House?
- a. In the Senate, bills on the floor must pass unanimously.
  - b. In the Senate, each state has an equal voice during debate.
  - c. In the Senate, many more bills are passed than in the House.
  - d. In the Senate, political parties have no significant influence.
- \_\_\_ 36. Which of these is an example of a check on the power of the legislative branch?
- a. Both houses must agree on a bill before it can be passed into law.
  - b. Citizens from all states must be represented in both houses of Congress.
  - c. Each house sets its own rules for behavior and procedure for its members.
  - d. Qualifications for membership in either house are very similar.
- \_\_\_ 37. Which statement describes a difference between the roles of personal and subcommittee staff?
- a. Personal staff manage schedules; subcommittee staff provide legislative information.
  - b. Personal staff research bills; subcommittee staff schedule hearings on bills.
  - c. Personal staff serve only members; subcommittee staff serve only personal staff.
  - d. Personal staff support one member; subcommittee staff support members from all parties.
- \_\_\_ 38. A candidate who runs for the U.S. House of Representatives must meet which of the following qualifications?
- a. at least 30 years old
  - b. hold law degree
  - c. legal resident of state
  - d. U.S. citizen from birth
- \_\_\_ 39. A Florida House member representing Cape Canaveral and other areas where NASA is active is most likely to request membership on which of these standing committees?
- a. Agriculture
  - b. Ethics
  - c. Foreign Affairs
  - d. Science, Space, and Technology
- \_\_\_ 40. The requirement of unanimous consent that applies to the Senate, but not the House, requires which of the following?
- a. a Rules Committee that controls the flow of legislation
  - b. an absence of political party influence
  - c. cooperation between majority and minority leadership
  - d. coordination between the vice president and president pro tempore



**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 48. How can political parties influence policy through congressional staff?
- a. Congressional support agencies are controlled by political parties.
  - b. Personal staff are likely to be in the same party as the member they work for.
  - c. Political parties have direct control of staff that belong to their party.
  - d. Staff that work on a committee are usually in the same party as the committee chair.
- \_\_\_ 49. Which of these is a member of the Senate majority party who fills a role that parallels the Speaker of the House?
- a. majority leader                      b. majority whip
  - c. president pro tempore              d. vice president
- \_\_\_ 50. Staff for the Conservation, Forestry and Natural Resources subcommittee of the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee in the Senate would be experts in which of the following?
- a. food pyramid      b. milk prices
  - c. grain prices        d. wood products
- \_\_\_ 51. Which of these is one reason that the number of personal staff members has become five times larger in the past 70 years?
- a. Individuals now ask for more help with government matters.
  - b. Lawmakers no longer have a need to read or understand legislation.
  - c. Many lawmakers have other jobs during their time in office.
  - d. Subcommittees no longer provide staff to help lawmakers.
- \_\_\_ 52. Which of these is likely to occur during a congressional session?
- a. Both the House and the Senate are adjourned for months in the summer.
  - b. Both the House and the Senate are in operation at the same time.
  - c. Either the House or the Senate works during the end-of-year holidays.
  - d. Neither the House nor the Senate adjourns until all work is completed.
- \_\_\_ 53. What is most likely to happen to a Senate bill that is opposed by the leadership of the minority party?
- a. It is likely to be filibustered and then passed through a cloture resolution.
  - b. It is likely to have holds placed on it before it reaches the Senate floor.
  - c. It is likely to reach the Senate floor and be filibustered.
  - d. It is likely to reach the Senate floor and pass.
- \_\_\_ 54. An amendment based on an idea proposed by James Madison in 1789 was enacted in 1992. This amendment relates to which of the following?
- a. congressional pay raises      b. expulsion from Congress
  - c. gerrymandering                  d. incumbency
- \_\_\_ 55. A senator who wants to provide information to the media about her support of a particular bill would work with which member of her personal staff?
- a. administrative assistant      b. legislative assistant
  - c. legislative director              d. press secretary

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- \_\_\_ 56. The House rule that limits the amount of time a member can speak during a debate is meant to
- a. allow many bills to be heard.
  - b. encourage polite behavior.
  - c. increase power of the majority party.
  - d. reduce member participation.
- \_\_\_ 57. The censure of a member of Congress results in which of the following?
- a. expulsion from Congress
  - b. fines
  - c. statement of formal disapproval
  - d. time in jail
- \_\_\_ 58. An election results in a Senate with 55 Democrats and 45 Republicans. On a committee of 24 senators, how many would be Republicans?
- a. 9
  - b. 10
  - c. 11
  - d. 12
- \_\_\_ 59. To maintain uniformity in democratic proceedings, Thomas Jefferson wrote the first rules manual for Congress when he was vice president. Which of the following behaviors would not be tolerated, based on this rules manual?
- a. debate on a bill being cut off by the presiding officer
  - b. one member directly debating another on the House floor
  - c. one member speaking in support of another member's bill
  - d. two members discussing a bill in their offices
- \_\_\_ 60. Which two individuals share the duty of presiding over the Senate?
- a. majority leader and majority whip
  - b. majority leader and minority leader
  - c. vice president and majority leader
  - d. vice president and president pro tempore



**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- a. provides checks and balances within Congress
- b. fills leadership role if vice president is unavailable
- c. branch given the most power by Founding Fathers
- d. agency that projects the costs of proposed programs
- e. drawing of district boundaries to benefit a party
- f. action to prevent a Senate bill from a final vote
- g. temporary committee to investigate an issue
- h. personal staff handling growing constituent requests
- i. decides who will testify about bills
- j. can stop a House bill from reaching a floor vote

- \_\_\_ 61. House Rules Committee
- \_\_\_ 62. select committee
- \_\_\_ 63. bicameral legislature
- \_\_\_ 64. gerrymandering
- \_\_\_ 65. caseworker
- \_\_\_ 66. president pro tempore
- \_\_\_ 67. committee chair
- \_\_\_ 68. Congress
- \_\_\_ 69. filibuster
- \_\_\_ 70. CBO

- a. whip
- b. quorum
- c. caucus
- d. majority leader
- e. constituent

- \_\_\_ 71. can effect a member's choice on which committees to serve
- \_\_\_ 72. closed meeting used by members of a party to make decisions
- \_\_\_ 73. assists the Speaker in planning the legislative program of the party
- \_\_\_ 74. number of members needed to take an official legislative action
- \_\_\_ 75. persuades members of their party to vote a certain way on bills

**US Government : Practice Chapter 5 Test**

- a. way that 60 senators can end a filibuster
- b. one cause of congressional staff increases
- c. initiated redistricting plans to give party advantage
- d. can stop the progress of unanimous consent
- e. temporary group that researches and reports on a topic or bill
- f. made history when serving as Speaker of the House
- g. gives the member with the longest uninterrupted service the leadership of that committee
- h. parallel to the job of assistant to the Speaker
- i. personal staff that researches and drafts bills for a lawmaker
- j. used to express disapproval of member's behavior

- \_\_\_ 76. Nancy Pelosi
- \_\_\_ 77. seniority system
- \_\_\_ 78. hold
- \_\_\_ 79. legislative assistant
- \_\_\_ 80. House minority leader
- \_\_\_ 81. censure
- \_\_\_ 82. complex legislation
- \_\_\_ 83. cloture resolution
- \_\_\_ 84. Elbridge Gerry
- \_\_\_ 85. joint committee

- a. congressional research service
- b. subcommittee staff
- c. chief of staff
- d. advanced technology
- e. legislative director

- \_\_\_ 86. one reason for increasing staff for the last 30 years
- \_\_\_ 87. personal staffer who provides information to lawmaker about legislative issues
- \_\_\_ 88. administrative assistant who supervises staff and runs a lawmaker's office
- \_\_\_ 89. provides information to lawmakers and staff from any published source
- \_\_\_ 90. studies issues and writes memos related to bills for a variety of members