Question 1
The framers of the Constitution wanted a government strong enough to avoid the difficulties encountered under the

- British Monarchy.
- Mayflower Compact.
- Bill of Rights.
- Articles of Confederation.
- Townshend Acts.

Question 2
The key feature of the Great Compromise was its provision for

- population-based representation for states in the House and equal representation for states in the Senate.
- equal representation for all states in both houses.
- proportional representation based on electoral votes in the Senate and equal representation in the House.
- population-based representation in both legislative bodies.
- election of senators by state legislatures.

Question 3
Each state has ________ Senators.

- two
- three
- four
- five
- ten

Question 4
Every two years, ________ of the Senate must stand for reelection.

- one-fourth
- one-half
- one-third
- all
- two-thirds

Question 5
All U.S. Senators were no longer chosen by state legislatures after the passage of the

- Thirteenth Amendment.
- Sixteenth Amendment.
- Seventeenth Amendment.
- Nineteenth Amendment.
- Twenty-first Amendment.

Question 6
Every two years, how many of the 435 House seats are up for reelection at the same time?

- All
- One-third
- Two-thirds
- Three-fourths
- One-half
Question 7
The redistribution of seats among the states every ten years after a census is known as

redistricting.
reapportionment.
reallocation.
gerrymandering.
impeachment.

Question 8
A president can be impeached by the ________ and tried and removed from office by the ________.

House and Senate; Supreme Court
House; House
Senate; House
House; Senate
Senate; Senate

Question 9
Which of the following powers is the exclusive power of the Senate?

To approve treaties
To impeach
To redistrict
To originate revenue bills
All of these choices are true.

Question 10
Since 1950, ________ of all House incumbents running for office have been reelected.

approximately 50 percent
approximately 90 percent
100 percent
less than 50 percent
approximately 80 percent

Question 11
Which of the following is not cited in the text as a reason Americans are unhappy with Congress?

The weakness of the economy
Persistent partisan disagreements within Congress
Too much cooperation with the president
Too much influence from interest groups
All of the above are reasons Americans are unhappy with Congress.

Question 12
The practice of altering district lines for partisan advantage after the census is also known as

redistricting.
reapportionment.
gerrymandering.
impeachment.
cloture.
Question 13
An incumbent advantage that permits members of Congress to keep in touch with constituents by sending mailings at the taxpayer’s expense is known as

- casework.
- reciprocity.
- postal privilege.
- communication allowance.
- the franking privilege.

✓

Question 14
When making contributions to candidates for Congress, PACs tend to show a preference for

- Democrats.
- incumbents.
- members of the Tea Party.
- Republicans.
- Independents.

✓

Question 15
Work performed by Congressional staff members on behalf of constituents is

- franking.
- appropriation.
- unethical influence peddling.
- lobbying.
- casework

✓

Question 16
The 113th Congress is considered by some to be __________, compared to the general population.

✓

- the most diverse in history
- about as diverse as previous sessions
- far less diverse
- almost perfectly representative
- of uncertain diversity because of legal restrictions on asking demographic questions

Question 17
Congress can overturn a presidential veto with a

- two-thirds vote in the House and a majority vote in the Senate.
- majority approval in the supreme court.
✓
- two-thirds vote in each house.
- three-fourths vote in each house.
- majority vote in the House and 60 votes in the Senate.

Question 18
A key difference between the House and the Senate concerning bill procedures is the

- Senate Appropriations Committee.
- House Rules Committee.
✓
- Senate Ways and Means Committee.
- prefilled bill requirement in the Senate.
- House floor procedure.
Question 19
If the president neither signs nor vetoes a bill within 10 days while Congress is in session, the bill

becomes law.

is sent back to Congress.

is recalled by Congress for further action.

has been pocket-vetoed.

is killed.

Question 20
A dispute over floor debate procedure in the House would be settled by

the House Ways and Means Committee.

the bill’s author.

unanimous consent.

the Rules Committee.

the standing committee from which the bill originated.

Question 21
The content of a proposed bill in Congress can be changed

only in committee.

only during floor deliberation.

at any stage of the legislative process in either the House or the Senate.

only in conference committee.

up to three times.

Question 22
The House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are examples of

select committees.

standing committees.

subcommittees.

ad hoc committees.

conference committees.

Question 23
The so-called “supercommittee” created in 2011 to issue recommendations for reducing the deficit, which included members from both the House and Senate, is an example of a(n)

standing committee.

subcommittee.

joint committee.

conference committee.

select committee.
**Question 24**
A __________ is a temporary committee established to deal with issues that either overlap or fall outside the areas of expertise of standing committees.

- subcommittee
- select committee
- conference committee
- joint committee
- makeshift committee

**Question 25**
A __________ is a committee composed of legislators from both houses that works out legislative differences between the Senate and House and develops a compromise version.

- subcommittee
- select committee
- conference committee
- joint committee
- makeshift committee

**Question 26**
Meetings in which legislation is debated and amended are called ________ sessions.

- ex nihilo nihil fit
- markup
- brainstorming
- skull
- war

**Question 27**
The vice president

- has no formal constitutional title over the U.S. Senate.
- has the ability to select Senate committee chairmen.
- can break tie votes in the Senate.
- frequently visits the Senate to lobby on behalf of the president.
- can veto Senate resolutions.

**Question 28**
A whip is a member of the legislature who _____________.

- acts as leader of the party when the majority leader is unavailable
- rounds up votes for legislation
- controls the kinds of amendments offered on the floor of the House
- is each party's primary liaison with the opposing party
- determines which committees legislation will be referred to

**Question 29**
The most powerful person in the Senate is the

- majority leader.
- majority whip.
- vice president.
- president pro tempore.
- sergeant-at-arms.
Question 30
The Senate delay tactic of talking a bill to death is called

- cloture.  
- logrolling.  
- filibustering.  
- gerrymandering.  
- muckraking.

✓

Question 31
In today’s Congress, the mere threat of a Senate filibuster is extremely common, which means that a bill often needs the support of

- sixty Senators.  
- the president.  
- a plurality vote of the Senate.  
- all Senate Committee Chairman.  
- None of these choices is true.

✓

Question 32
A congressional representative is following the trustee philosophy when he or she

- takes instructions from party leaders on how to vote.  
- votes in accordance with the perceived wishes of the citizens back home.  
- votes according to his or her conscience, even if doing so means going against the wishes of the majority back home.  
- consults the president before an important vote.  
- polls members of the district prior to a vote.

✓

Question 33
Which voting behavior by a representative indicates delegate behavior?

- Voting with the representative’s party on an issue  
- Voting with the president on a bill if the president promises to campaign for that representative at reelection time  
- Voting the way the representative thinks best, even if the vote is against the wishes of a large number of constituents  
- Trading votes on an issue of low importance with another House member to gain a voting favor on another bill  
- Voting according to the results of a telephone survey regarding the preference of district constituents

✓