Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Page #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Obj: 3.1 Structure of Legislative Branch Obj: 3.2 Compare 2 houses of Congress Obj: 3.3 Congressional representation determined

**The Legislative Branch**

**Introduction (Article I, Section I)**

**The legislative branch of the United States government is described in Article I of the Constitution. Its major job is to make our country’s laws. The American system of government is based on a repetitive form of government. Not all Americans can meet in the same place at the same time to make laws, so Americans choose representatives to make the laws for them. Representatives carry out the will of the people, or they are replaced during the next election**

**Laws are passed by a majority vote. Majority means one over half. For example, among 10 people, six or more of them must agree in order to pass a law. The larger group of politicians is known as the majority, and the smaller group is known as the minority. If you are in the minority, you try to encourage members of the majority to change sides.**

**The legislative branch of our Federal government is called *Congress*. Congress is made up the House of Representatives and the Senate. Congress begins its meeting on the third day of January every odd-numbered year. The meetings are called terms they last two years with a recess, or break, during the summer. The first term of Congress met from 1789-91. The House of Representatives and the Senate meet in different chambers on opposite sides of the Capital Building in Washington, D.C.**

**The Congress makes its own rules governing its meetings. It can expel, or remove, a member by a two thirds vote. That means that two thirds of the members, not just a majority, have to agree to an action. A record is kept of all the meetings and is published in the Congressional Record.**

**Members of Congress also have certain privileges. They cannot be arrested when going to or coming from Congress, or while attending a session of Congress. A member cannot be sued or punished for anything he or she might say in Congress.**

**The Constitution goes on to define the individual responsibilities and requirements of the two houses of Congress: the House of Representatives and the Senate, our lawmaking bodies.**

**Directions: Answer the questions**

**Introduction**

**= Challenges =**

**1. Define:**

**Majority: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Minority: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Privilege: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Expel: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. What is the major duty of the legislative branch?** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**3. What is the legislative body called? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**4. Where does it meet? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**5. What two houses make up the Congress? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**6. When do its meetings begin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**7. What is the name of the record of the meetings of Congress: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**8. List two privileges of member of the United States Congress.**

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**The Legislative Branch**

**The House of Representatives (Article I, Section 2)**

**The largest house of Congress is the House of Representatives. There are 435 representatives in the House. The number of representatives a state has is based on the number of people, or population, in the state. There is one representative for every 500,000 people. So if a state has two million people, that state would be able to send four Representatives to Washington, D.C.**

**The term of office for a representatives live in two years in order to stay in office, he or she must be reelected every two.**

**To find out how many people are in the state, the government conducts a census, or count of the people, every ten years. The first census was conducted in 1790. When will the next census occur?**

**In order to be a representative, there are certain requirements to be met. A representative must be at least 25 years old, much be a citizen of the United States for at least Seven years, and must live in the state from which he or she is elected.**

**Within the House, there are several leaders. The Speaker of House is the presiding office. The Speaker is a selected by the members of the House and is usually a member of the majority party. The Speaker of the House is second in line to take over the presidency, alter the Vice President, in the event of emergency.**

**The House of Representatives has the sole power to begin *impeachment* proceedings against a government official. To impeach is to accuse an official of some wrongdoing or usage of power. The House begins the process by accusing the official, but the trial is carried out by the Senate.**

**Directions: Answer the questions**

**The House of Representatives**

**= Challenges =**

**1. Define:**

**Census: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Impeach: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. How many representatives are there in the House of Representatives? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. How many representatives does your state sent to Washington, D.C.? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4. When was the last census taken in the United States? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**When will the next census be taken? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**5. What was the population of the United States at the last census? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**6. What are the three qualifications to be a representative?**

**a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**7. What is the title of the presiding officer of the House? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**8. The House begins the impeachment process by doing what? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**The Legislative Branch**

**The Senate Article (I, Section 3)**

**The other house that makes up the Congress is the Senate. The Senate is the smaller of the two groups, with only 100 members. These people are known as senators. Each state, regardless of how big or small, has two senators. Currently there are 50 states, so we have 100 senators in Washington, D.C.**

**Each senator is elected for six-year term, but every two years, one third of the senate is up for reelection. For example, in 1992, 33 senators were elected for six-year terms. In 1994, 33 others will be elected, and in 1996, 34 will be elected. This way, there is never an entirely new group of senators; there will always be some experienced senators to guide the newcomers.**

**According to the original Constitution, the senator were chosen by the state legislatures, but in 1913, the Seventeenth Amendment changed this and allowed the people to elect their senators directly.**

**In order to be a senator there are certain requirements that must be met. A senator must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States for at least nine years, and live in the state he or she represents.**

**The Senate also has certain leaders. The Vice President of the United s=States is in charge of all meetings of the senate. He can only vote in the event of a tie between the senators. If the Vice President is absent, the senators choose an alternate presiding officer known as the president pro tempore (temporary president). The president pro tempore is third in line to take over the presidency in the event of an emergency.**

**With regards to the impeachment process, the Senate acts as the jury and tries any impeachment cases. When the House of Representatives accuses an official of a crime, the senate decides whether or not the official is guilty. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court acts as the judge. Two thirds of the senators present must find the official guilty in order to remove him from office.**

**Directions: Answer the questions**

**The Senate**

**= Challenges =**

**1. What are the names of the two houses of Congress?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. How many senators does each state sent to Washington, D.C.? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. What is the total number of senators today? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4. What is the term of office of a senator? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**5. What is the term of office of a representative? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**6. what are the three requirements to be a senator?**

**a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**7. What are the titles of the two presiding officers of the Senate?**

**a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**8. What does the Senate do during the impeachment process? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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