Name:
Date:
Period:

## Chapter 4: The Legislative Branch – Vocabulary

Define the following terms to know.

1. standard
2. admit
3. restrict
4. defend
5. Elastic Clause
6. military
7. function
8. flexible
9. citizen
10. adjourn
11. term
12. session
13. minority
14. bill
15. serve
16. seniority system
17. representative
18. economic depression
19. resident
20. resignation
21. regulate
22. reject
23. joint committee
24. pocket veto
25. permanent

Chapter 4 Study Guide:

If you can answer the questions you're well on your way to passing the chapter four test:

1. What are the names of the three branches in our government?
2. What branch makes laws? What is another name for this branch of government?
3. What two Houses make up the Legislative Branch?
4. How many Senators represent each state? How many Senators are there?
5. How many Representatives are there in the House of Representatives? How many representatives are there for each state?
6. Which state has the most representatives?
7. What are the qualifications to be a Senator?
8. What are the qualifications to be a Representative?
9. When does Congress adjourn its session?
10. What are the duties of Congress?
11. Where do ideas for laws begin?
12. How do bills become laws?
13. What happens to bills in committees?
14. Who serves on Congressional committees?
15. What is the seniority system?
16. What can Congress do?
17. What can't Congress do?
18. What is the elastic clause, and how does Congress use it when new problems arise?

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
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# The Branches of Government

***Directions:*** Choose the term from the Word Bank that matches each of the descriptions. Write the term on the line beside each description.

**Word Bank**

| | |
|---|---|
| Cabinet | National Government |
| Congress | President |
| Constitution | United States of America |
| Executive Branch | U.S. Capitol Building |
| Judicial Branch | Washington, D.C. |
| Legislative Branch | |

1) Name of our country _____
2) Federal government _____
3) Head of the executive branch _____
4) Made up of courts and judges _____
5) Gives each branch of the government its powers _____
6) Close advisers to the President _____
7) Branch that includes the President, Vice President, and President's cabinet _____
8) The legislative branch _____
9) Branch that makes the laws _____
10) Capital city of the United States _____
11) Place where the work of the legislative branch is carried on _____

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

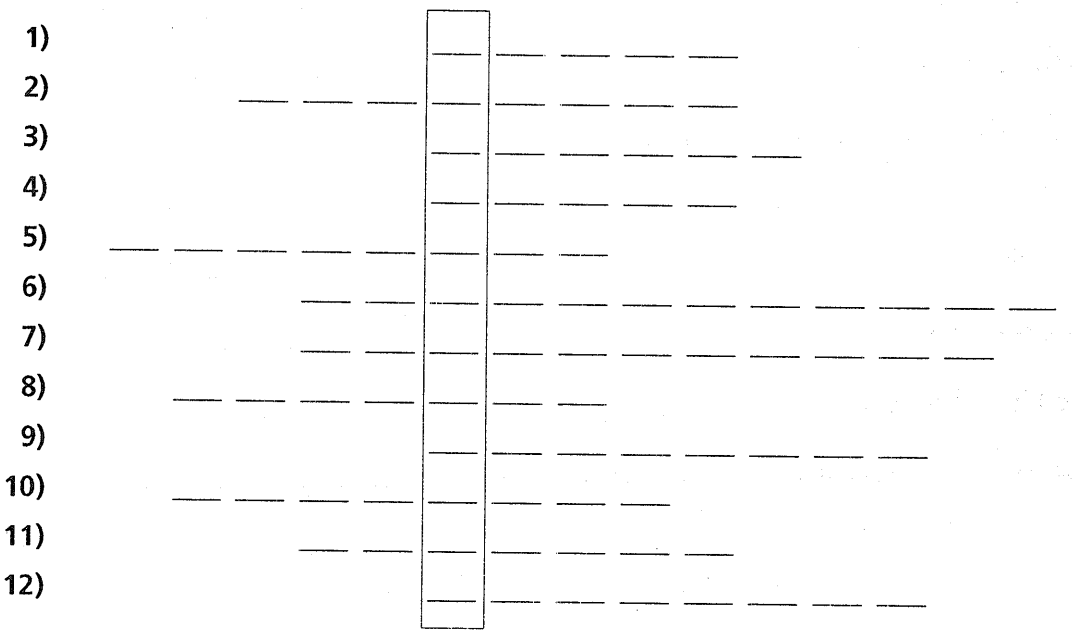
Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
17

# About the Congress

**A. *Directions:*** Complete each sentence with a word from the Word Bank.

1) The men and _____ of Congress are elected by the voters in their own state.
2) The people who work in the Senate are called _____.
3) The smaller part of the Congress is called the _____.
4) The part of Congress with the most members is the _____ of Representatives.
5) To win more than half the votes in an election is to win by a _____.
6) The _____ set up our Congress.
7) The _____ branch of the federal government makes the laws.
8) The members of Congress are _____ by the voters in their own states.
9) A person who holds an office is called an _____.
10) Members of Congress decide which bills are good by _____ for them.
11) The national government, or _____ government, has the power to run the whole country.
12) The lawmaking body of our country is called _____.

**B. *Directions:*** Use the words from the sentences to fill in the words in this puzzle. The letters in the box reading down tell you where most members of Congress meet and work.




**Word Bank**
Congress
Constitution
elected
federal
House
legislative
majority
official
Senate
senators
voting
women

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
18

# How a Bill Becomes a Law

***Directions:*** Fill the chart with these steps. Write the steps in the order a new bill must go through to become a law.

- If committee approves, placed on House or Senate calendar
- Introduced in House or Senate
- If President signs, becomes law
- Committee decides to consider or to drop
- President signs or vetoes
- Referred to a standing committee
- If approved by majority, sent to other house of Congress
- If considered, goes to subcommittee and back to committee
- If both houses approve, sent to the President
- Read and debated in House or Senate

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

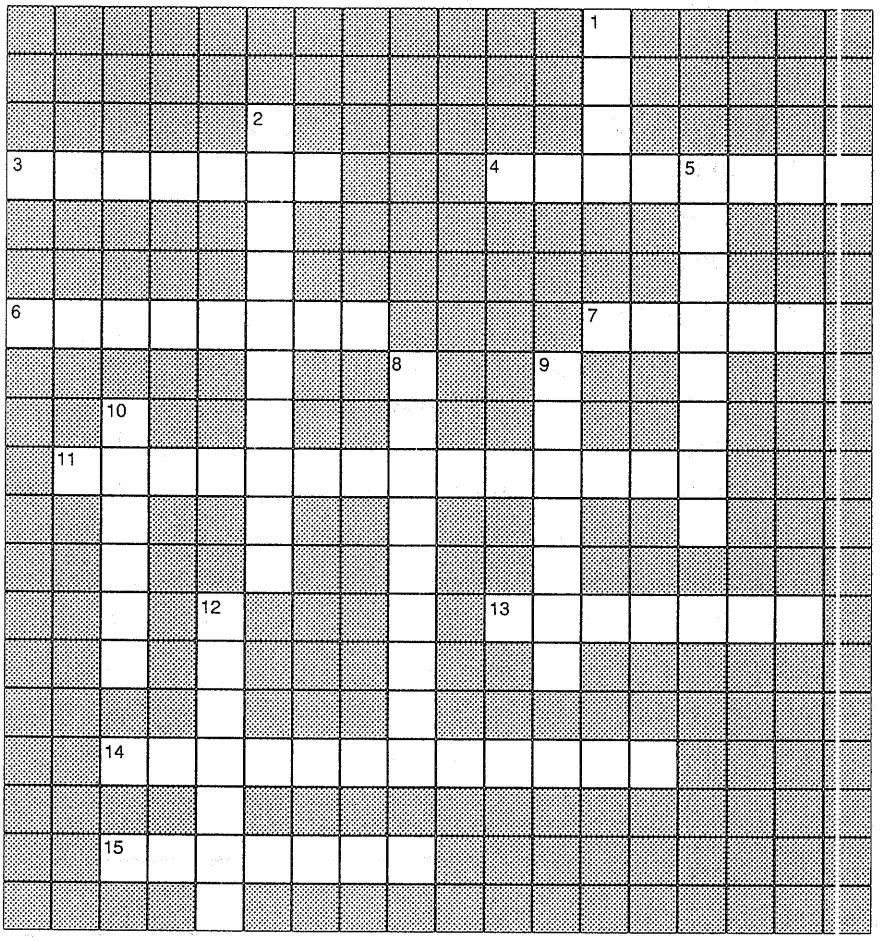
9 _____

10 _____

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
19

# Legislative Branch Puzzle



**Across**

**3)** Period of time when Congress works.

**4)** A representative should live in the _____ he or she represents.

**6)** Permanent committees.

**7)** To investigate.

**11)** A _____ must be at least 25 years old.

**13)** Serves a six-year term.

**14)** Tell others about new laws to be voted on.

**15)** The _____ Affairs Committee.

**Down**

**1)** Most important duty of Congress is to make _____ .

**2)** Small groups that study bills.

**5)** Never considered further.

**8)** A _____ for the Senate must be at least 30 years old.

**9)** A senator must have been a U.S. _____ for at least nine years.

**10)** The _____ member of the committee is usually the chairperson.

**12)** To end a session of Congress.

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
20

# Finding the Meaning

***Directions:*** Read each statement. Choose the best meaning from the box for the underlined word or phrase. Write the meaning in the space provided.

- Authority to take action, or the right to decide
- Rules that restrict
- Flexible
- Protected
- To protect from attack or harm
- Permitted to enter
- Lawmaking body
- Roads across the whole country
- Foreigners
- Highest court in the land

**1)** The Constitution has given Congress the power to do many things for the whole nation.

_____

**2)** Congress decides how new states may be admitted to the United States.

_____

**3)** Although the Constitution has given Congress many powers, it also has put limits on what the Congress may do.

_____

**4)** Congress has the power to defend the nation against all enemies.

_____

**5)** Congress runs the system of national highways

_____

**6)** Congress decides on requirements for people from other countries to become citizens.

_____

**7)** The Constitution limits the power of Congress.

_____

**8)** The "elastic clause" in the Constitution makes Congress able to do things not mentioned in the Constitution.

_____

**9)** The Supreme Court can tell Congress if a law goes against the Constitution.

_____

**10)** Congress cannot take away the rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

_____

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Workbook Activity
21

# Federal Government Branches

***Directions:*** Match each term in Column A with its description in Column B. Write the letter of the correct answer on the line next to each number.

**Column A**

_____ **1)** veto

_____ **2)** committee

_____ **3)** representatives

_____ **4)** executive branch

_____ **5)** six years

_____ **6)** federal government

_____ **7)** Congress

_____ **8)** senators

_____ **9)** bill

_____ **10)** legislative branch

_____ **11)** House of Representatives

_____ **12)** Senate

_____ **13)** judicial branch

_____ **14)** President

_____ **15)** two years

**Column B**

**a)** Makes the laws

**b)** Members of the House of Representatives

**c)** Small group that studies new bills

**d)** Made up of two houses

**e)** Enforces the laws

**f)** Power to reject a rule or law

**g)** National government

**h)** Made up of 100 members

**i)** Number of years members of the House of Representatives serve

**j)** Made up of 435 members

**k)** Members of the Senate

**l)** A proposed new law

**m)** Makes decisions about laws

**n)** Number of years members of the Senate serve

**o)** Leader of the executive branch

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Chapter 4
Activity 7

# About the Congress

**A. *Directions:*** Match each term in Column A with its description in Column B. Write the correct letter on the line next to each number.

| Column A | Column B |
|---|---|
| ____ 1) Senate | a) More than half |
| ____ 2) Congress | b) The smaller of the two houses of Congress |
| ____ 3) representative | c) A person who is a member of the Senate |
| ____ 4) House of Representatives | d) The part of Congress whose numbers depend on the population of each state |
| ____ 5) public official | e) A member of the House of Representatives |
| ____ 6) senator | f) A period for carrying out a duty |
| ____ 7) majority | g) The lawmaking body |
| ____ 8) term | h) A person who holds an office |

**B. *Directions:*** Circle the word that completes each statement. Then write the missing word in the blank.

1) A new _____ is introduced in the House or Senate.
   a) bill  b) vote
2) _____ leaders tell members of Congress about new bills.
   a) Floor  b) Party
3) The bill is given a _____ and title.
   a) name  b) number
4) The bill is sent to the proper _____ for study.
   a) standing committee  b) representative
5) The committee decides to _____ or drop the bill.
   a) consider  b) pass
6) If approved, the bill goes on the House or Senate _____.
   a) floor  b) calendar
7) Both House and Senate _____ a bill before it goes to the President.
   a) veto  b) approve
8) The President signs or _____ a bill.
   a) vetoes  b) amends
9) Congress_____ session when its work is completed.
   a) begins  b) adjourns

Name Date Period

Chapter 4
Activity
8

# Legislative Branch Words

**A. *Directions:*** Complete each sentence with a word from the Word Bank.

1) The _____ branch of the government interprets the laws.
2) _____ , D.C., is the nation's capital.
3) The "_____ clause" in the Constitution allows Congress to make all laws necessary for carrying out its duties.
4) The _____ branch of the government carries out the laws.
5) The _____ is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate.
6) A member of the House of Representatives is known as a _____ .
7) States are divided into _____ for the purpose of electing representatives.
8) The _____ branch of the government makes the laws.
9) The _____ of the House is the leader of the House of Representatives.
10) A _____ is a member of the Senate.
11) To _____ is to bring a meeting or session to an end.
12) _____ means a special place in a group because of longer service.
13) Small groups that study bills are known as _____ .

**B. *Directions:*** Use the words from the sentences to fill in the missing words in this puzzle. The letters in the box reading down spell an important part of our government.

**Word Bank**

| | |
|---|---|
| adjourn | legislative |
| committees | representative |
| Congress | senator |
| districts | Seniority |
| elastic | Speaker |
| executive | Washington |
| judicial | |