

Define this word and think of how it could be used in a sentence:

legislate

legislate (v) : to make laws

It is the job of the U.S. Congress to legislate for the nation.

Define this word and think of how it could be used in a sentence:

legislation

legislation (n): laws

Congress works to pass legislation for our country.

Define this word and think of how it could be used in a sentence:

legislative

legislative (adj): lawmaking

Congress works in the legislative branch of government.

Define this word and think of how it could be used in a sentence:

legislator

legislator (n): a lawmaker

Each legislator is assigned to committees in order to become an expert on particular topics.

Define this word and think of how it could be used in a sentence:

legislature

legislature (n): a group of lawmakers

The legislature meets in the Capitol Building.

Give two reasons that apportionment is fair?

Apportionment is fair for two groups:
1. The 435 representatives each have a similar number of people to stand up for because each of the 435 districts in the U.S. have about the same population.
2. Each person has an equal chance of contacting their representative because their representative is just as busy as all of the other representatives.

Go to back side of page 20 in your unit. Study the photos of each Representative and Senator so that you can match them up with their name and title.

Do you know which person is Chellie Pingree?
Jared Golden?
Angus King?
Susan Collins?
Do you know which ones are representatives and which ones are senators? You need to know these things!

Have you studied hard? Have you studied enough? Do you know and understand the basics of the Legislative Branch?

If you are thinking: "Yes! I am ready!," then go through these cards again just before the quiz and be proud of your best effort. YOU'VE GOT THIS!

If you are thinking: "No! I am not ready for the quiz!," then keep practicing these cards until you know them well. You can do this! It is hard work but YOU CAN DO IT!

How many congressional districts does Maine have?

Maine has two congressional districts. That is why we have only two representatives: Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden.

How many total representatives are in the U.S. House of Representatives and how long is the term of a representative?

There are a total of 435 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives. The number from each state is based on population.

Representatives serve a term of two years.

How many total senators are in the U.S. Senate and how long is the term of a senator?

There are a total of 100 senators in the U.S. Senate, two from each state.

Senators serve a term of six years.

In what building does the Congress work?

The Congress works in the Capitol Building.

In what document would you look to read about the legislative branch of the U.S. government?

You would look in a document called the U.S. Constitution in order to read about the legislative branch of U.S. government. (Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.)

List the three choices that the President has when a bill arrives on his/her desk.

1. Sign it
2. Veto it
3. Ignore it

Name the four legislators from Maine.

Representatives:
Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden

Senators:
Susan Collins and Angus King

True or False

Laws passed in the U.S.A.
must be followed by in other
countries.

False

Only people in OUR nation must
follow laws made for our nation.
Laws made for the U.S.A. are called
federal laws.

What are the two parts of
Congress?

The two parts of Congress
are the House of
Representatives and the
Senate.

What does it mean when a
bill is "on the floor?"

When a bill is "on the floor" it
is
the center of attention.
It is the only thing that
can be debated.

What do these things have in common?

can declare war
can collect taxes
can regulate trade
can decide how tax money is spent
can control immigration

All of the things on the list
are powers of the U.S.
Congress.

What is a majority?

A majority is at least half,
plus one. So, a majority is
MORE than half.

What is apportionment?

Apportionment is the dividing up of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives so that each representative has a district of about the same size.

In other words, each of the 435 representatives in the House has an equal "portion" of the People to represent.

What is the definition of a committee?

A committee is a small group of people who meet for some reason. Legislative committees meet to discuss bills that are focused on the particular topic of each committee.

What is the difference between a federal law and a state law?

A federal law has to be followed by everyone in the USA, whereas a state law only applies to the people in that particular state.

What is the main purpose of the Legislative Branch?

The main purpose of the Legislative Branch is to make the laws for our country.

This is done by the Congress.

What process is used for counting the population in the U.S. and how often is it done?

The census is done every 10 years in order to count the population of the U.S.

What title is given to the leader of the House of Representatives and how does s/he get that position of leadership?

The leader of the House is called the Speaker of the House. S/he is elected by the members of the House. The political party that has the majority of members in the House chooses one of the representatives in their own party to be the Speaker.

What title is given to the leader of the U.S. Senate and how does s/he get that position of leadership?

The leader of the Senate is called the Senate Majority Leader. S/he is elected by the members of the Senate. The political party that has the majority of members in the Senate chooses one of the senators in their own party to be the Majority Leader.

Why are the positions of Speaker of the House and Senate Majority Leader so important?

The leaders of each chamber have the power to decide which bills and other items of business will be considered for a vote and in what order that will happen. If the Speaker or Majority Leader decides not to act on a piece of legislation at all, that is just the way it is. They have a lot of power to control the laws that will or will not be made while they are the leaders.
