

**Development of Congressional Powers**

**Multiple Choice**

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- \_\_\_ 1. Laws for raising money for the federal government are called
  - a. revenue bills.
  - b. oversight powers.
  - c. appropriations bills.
  - d. impoundment.
  
- \_\_\_ 2. Proposed laws to authorize spending money are called
  - a. bills of attainder.
  - b. writs of habeas corpus.
  - c. revenue bills.
  - d. appropriations bills.
  
- \_\_\_ 3. Witnesses who do not tell the truth can be prosecuted for
  - a. impeachment.
  - b. impoundment.
  - c. perjury.
  - d. contempt.
  
- \_\_\_ 4. This power allows Congress to check on how the executive is administering the law.
  - a. impoundment
  - b. legislative oversight
  - c. immunity
  - d. impeachment
  
- \_\_\_ 5. This action was found unconstitutional because it violated the separation of powers.
  - a. legislative veto
  - b. presidential veto
  - c. legislative powers
  - d. legislative override
  
- \_\_\_ 6. Some historians believe that the checks and balances system causes
  - a. impeachment.
  - b. perjury.
  - c. more legislative vetoes.
  - d. gridlock.
  
- \_\_\_ 7. In Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution, these powers of Congress are described.
  - a. writ of habeas corpus
  - b. expressed powers
  - c. denied powers
  - d. bills of attainder
  
- \_\_\_ 8. What implies that Congress has powers beyond those expressed in the first 17 clauses of Article I, Section 8?
  - a. expressed powers
  - b. writ of habeas corpus
  - c. necessary and proper clause
  - d. enumerated powers
  
- \_\_\_ 9. Setting the minimum wage comes under this power of Congress.
  - a. regulation of commerce
  - b. impeachment
  - c. naturalization
  - d. taxes
  
- \_\_\_ 10. A legal order that a person appear in court or produce requested documents is called
  - a. immunity.
  - b. contempt.
  - c. writ of habeas corpus.
  - d. subpoena.
  
- \_\_\_ 11. Freedom from prosecution for witnesses whose testimony ties them to illegal acts is called
  - a. contempt.
  - b. immunity.
  - c. writ of habeas corpus.
  - d. perjury.
  
- \_\_\_ 12. The president's refusal to spend appropriated funds is called
  - a. impeachment.
  - b. impoundment.
  - c. presidential veto.
  - d. contempt.

**Matching***Match each item with the correct statement below.*

- |    |                        |    |                                      |
|----|------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| a. | subpoena               | f. | immunity                             |
| b. | regulation of commerce | g. | financial experts                    |
| c. | gridlock               | h. | authority to pass bills of attainder |
| d. | being held in contempt | i. | perjury                              |
| e. | copyright laws         | j. | necessary and proper clause          |

- \_\_\_ 13. protects the author of written work
- \_\_\_ 14. denied to Congress
- \_\_\_ 15. implied Congressional powers
- \_\_\_ 16. power to regulate working conditions
- \_\_\_ 17. legal order for appearance in court
- \_\_\_ 18. punishment for refusal to testify
- \_\_\_ 19. a witness lying under oath
- \_\_\_ 20. freedom from prosecution
- \_\_\_ 21. partisan political differences
- \_\_\_ 22. Congressional Budget Office

*Match each item with the correct statement below.*

- |    |                       |    |                     |
|----|-----------------------|----|---------------------|
| a. | impeachment           | f. | legislative veto    |
| b. | legislative oversight | g. | checks and balances |
| c. | perjury               | h. | appropriations bill |
| d. | unlimited debate rule | i. | martial law         |
| e. | revenue bill          | j. | interstate commerce |

- \_\_\_ 23. law to raise money
- \_\_\_ 24. proposed law to spend money
- \_\_\_ 25. accusation of misconduct
- \_\_\_ 26. business among the states
- \_\_\_ 27. to lie under oath
- \_\_\_ 28. Congress' check of the president
- \_\_\_ 29. violated separation of powers principle
- \_\_\_ 30. "president versus Congress"
- \_\_\_ 31. blocks action on legislation
- \_\_\_ 32. used in times of crisis

**Short Answer****Critical Thinking**

33. **Making Generalizations** Why might the writers of the Constitution have required that all tax laws originate in the House of Representatives rather than in the Senate?

34. **Synthesizing Information** Explain why conflict between the president and Congress often continues when the same political party controls each branch.

**Understanding Concepts**

35. **Constitutional Interpretations** Explain how the Constitution's commerce clause permits Congress to require that all radio and TV stations be licensed by the federal government.
36. **Checks and Balances** How effective is legislative oversight as a congressional check on the power of the executive branch?
37. **Political Processes** For what reasons do so few bills introduced into Congress ever become law?

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**Answer Section**

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

- 1. A
- 2. D
- 3. C
- 4. B
- 5. A
- 6. D
- 7. B
- 8. C
- 9. A
- 10. D
- 11. B
- 12. B

**MATCHING**

- 13. E
- 14. H
- 15. J
- 16. B
- 17. A
- 18. D
- 19. I
- 20. F
- 21. C
- 22. G
  
- 23. E
- 24. H
- 25. A
- 26. J
- 27. C
- 28. B
- 29. F
- 30. G
- 31. D
- 32. I

**SHORT ANSWER**

33. The House is more directly representative of the people than is the Senate, where all states are equally represented regardless of their population size.
34. Some conflict is inherent in the structure of government, regardless of party politics. The president speaks for all the people, while members of Congress represent the interests of narrower constituencies, even if both are of the same political party. In addition, House members have only two years to achieve their goals, compared to the president's four years and a senator's six-year term.
35. Because radio and TV signals often cross state lines, they fall under the broad definition of interstate commerce, thus giving Congress power to regulate the stations that broadcast them.
36. In practice, it is not very effective. Under normal circumstances, oversight is inconsistent because Congress is too busy with its other functions. In addition, congressional committees tend to become close with the agencies they oversee. However, if a problem develops in an agency that attracts public attention, oversight then becomes very effective.
37. The process is long and difficult. Powerful interest groups may oppose a bill. It may be killed in committee or amended in such a way that it is unacceptable to a majority of the members of the House or Senate. It may be killed by a presidential veto. It may have been proposed for purely political reasons in the first place, with the knowledge that it had no chance of becoming law.

A 1.

D 2.

C 3.

B 4.

A 5.

D 6.

B 7.

C 8.

A 9.

D 10.

B 11.

B 12.

E 13.

H 14.

J 15.

B 16.

A 17.

D 18.

I 19.

F 20.

C 21.

G 22.

E 23.

H 24.

A 25.

J 26.

C 27.

B 28.

F 29.

G 30.

D 31.

I 32.