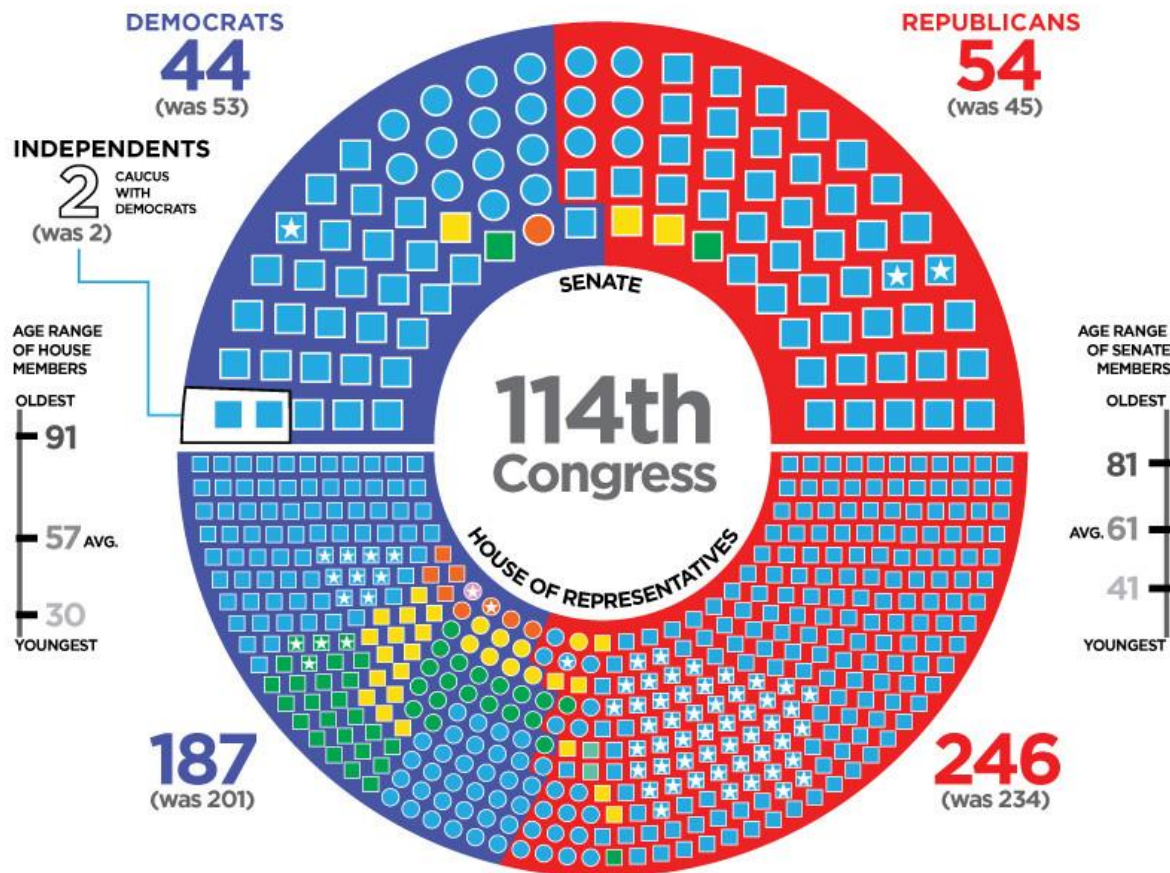


# UNIT 5

## CONGRESS & The PRESIDENCY



114<sup>th</sup> Congress 2015 - 2017

# WORKBOOK

## WHAT I ALREADY KNOW???: PPT

1. Anti-Federalist fears about trashing the Articles of Confederation in favor of the new Constitution:

- 
- 

2. What is the origination and meaning of the term "mobocracy?"

3. **THE GREAT COMPROMISE:**

Upper House: \_\_\_\_\_

Lower House: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Which branch of government (be very specific) was designed to be closer to the people? Explain

## CONGRESSIONAL BASICS:

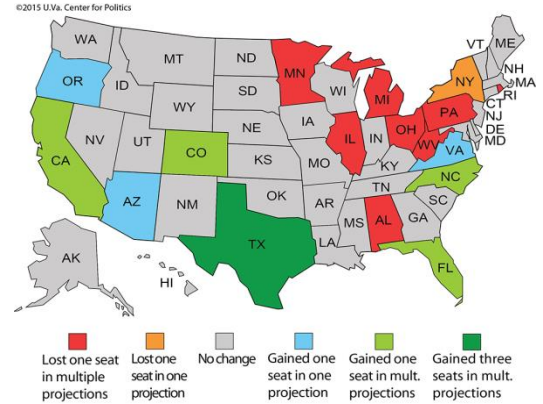
	HOUSE	SENATE
Age of eligibility		
Length of term		
Is term staggered? How?		
Are there term limits?		
Citizenship requirement in years		
Residency requirement of what?		
Total Membership Size		

# WHAT I ALREADY KNOW (Cont.) PPT

List 3 advantage of incumbency:

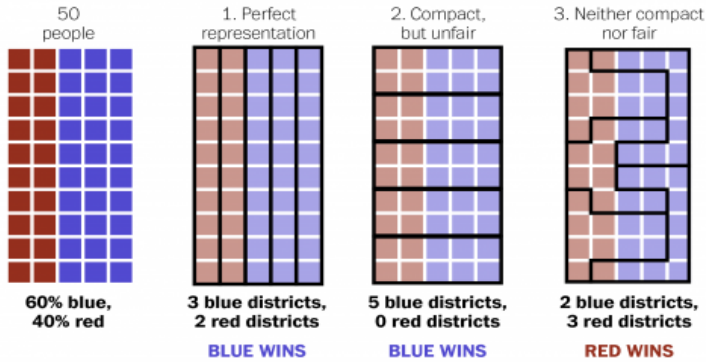
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Explain what apportionment is and when/how it may affect R.I.



## Gerrymandering, explained

Three different ways to divide 50 people into five districts



WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WONKBLOG

Adapted from Stephen Nass

**Gerrymandering** is a form of redistricting in which electoral districts are manipulated to favor a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Packing** - drawing the district lines in such a way as to \_\_\_\_\_, thus preserving a majority of seats for itself.

**Cracking** - drawing the district lines in such a way as to \_\_\_\_\_ and thus \_\_\_\_\_ in order to preserve a majority of seats for the majority party.

## Effects of gerrymandering

- The party in power \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ are created for incumbents, leading to further difficulties for challengers
- \_\_\_\_\_ districts created by \_\_\_\_\_ gerrymandering

## WHAT I ALREADY KNOW (Cont.) PPT

### REDISTRICTING REQUIREMENTS:

- District lines must be \_\_\_\_\_( \_\_\_\_\_ )
- \_\_\_\_\_ is prohibited ( \_\_\_\_\_, 1993). Race may not be the \_\_\_\_\_ in drawing district lines (but it can be a factor).
- Cannot \_\_\_\_\_

### SCOTUS CASES ON GERRYMANDERING & REDISTRICTING

Baker v. Carr (1962)	
Wesberry v.Sanders (1964)	
Gill v. Whitford (2017)	

## **POWERS OF CONGRESS:** Constitution & PPT

**I: Expressed:** (enumerated, delegated): spelled out in the Constitution

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**II: Implied:** (Powers suggested, but not expressed, in the Constitution)

- 1.
- 2.

**III: Inherent:** (Powers the national government has simply by virtue of being a sovereign govt.)

- 1.
- 2.

**IV: Institutional Powers:** (Checks & Balances)

**Senate:**

- 1.
- 2.

**House:**

- 1.
- 2.

**Powers Denied To Congress:** (Define the bold words)

1. Passing **ex post facto laws** -
2. Passing **bills of attainder** -
3. Suspending **habeas corpus** except in cases of rebellion or invasion -

# STRUCTURE OF CONGRESS: PPT

<b>HOUSE</b>	<b>SENATE</b>
<p><b>Speaker of the House:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presides over House ( _____ ) – always from _____</li> <li>• Appoints select and conference _____</li> <li>• Appoints _____ Committee members and its _____</li> <li>• Assigns _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• Informal powers, e.g., _____</li> <li>• Influences _____ of the House</li> </ul> <p><b>Majority/Minority Leader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• Floor leaders and legislative strategists</li> </ul> <p><b>Majority/Minority Whip:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant _____</li> <li>• Inform party leaders on " _____ " of House</li> <li>• Keep nose count on _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• Liaison between party _____ and rank and file _____</li> </ul>	<p><b>President of the Senate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• Presides over Senate</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• Ceremonial job</li> </ul> <p><b>President Pro Tempore:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ceremonial job</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Majority Leader:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____ – w/power to _____, this gives Majority Leader strong influence on bills</li> <li>• True leader of _____</li> <li>• Influences committee assignments of senators</li> <li>• Influences Senate agenda, along with Minority Leader</li> <li>• Informal powers, e.g., of _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Minority Leader &amp; Party Whips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as House</li> </ul>

The real work of Congress is done in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, not on the floor of the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ Senate.

Before a bill \_\_\_\_\_, it must first pass through a \_\_\_\_\_, unless the committee has resisted "reporting out" the bill and the House votes to "discharge" it onto the floor for consideration by the full body. (Senate committees lack the power to prevent bills from reaching the floor).

**Committee functions:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

## IMPORTANT COMMITTEES: PPT

### SELECTION:

- ✓ Importance of getting on the right committee –
  
- ✓ Whichever party has \_\_\_\_\_ in the house will have a majority on \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- ✓ Committee chairman is of \_\_\_\_\_; “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” is most senior member of \_\_\_\_\_ on a committee

Power of chairmen is substantial over:

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓ Membership on subcommittees
- ✓ Jurisdiction of subcommittees

Chairmen are selected by \_\_\_\_\_ (of party leaders) at the beginning of the term.

- ✓ Generally, the \_\_\_\_\_ is followed, i.e., the person of the majority party with the most seniority on \_\_\_\_\_ is chosen chairman.

### STANDING COMMITTEES:

<b>HOUSE</b>	<b>SENATE</b>
1. _____: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets legislative calendar and establish “rules” for debate and amendments.</li> </ul>	1. _____: _____
2. _____: _____	2. _____: bills.
3. _____: _____ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Authorization</u> bill allows for money to be spent.</li> <li>• <u>Appropriation</u> bill provides the actual funding for the program.</li> <li>• “ _____:” special projects set aside by members to benefit home districts or states. Dramatic rise of these in recent years.</li> </ul>	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____: Highly prestigious. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senate has larger role in foreign affairs than House because of treaty ratification, ambassador confirmation provisions in Constitution</li> </ul>
5. _____	5. _____: Screens judicial nominees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careful scrutiny given because of the power of the modern judiciary and the fact that judges have life terms.</li> </ul>

# OTHER COMMITTEES: PPT

## I: Conference Committees:

- Temporary committees comprised of members \_\_\_\_\_.
- Develop \_\_\_\_\_ on a bill when House and Senate versions differ (\_\_\_\_\_).
- After conference committee sends bill back to each house, \_\_\_\_\_, and the bill \_\_\_\_\_.
- The power of these committees is such that they are often called the "\_\_\_\_\_."

## II: Select:

\_\_\_\_\_, e.g., to study an issue or to conduct an investigation.

## III: Joint:

\_\_\_\_\_ for similar temporary purposes.

