Congress in a FLASH

Name:

Help the Historian. Someone has found an early copy of the Constitution, but it is in pretty bad shape, and lots of pieces are missing—especially in Article I. Now that you know about Congress, you can help fill in the gaps! Read each excerpt and decide what should go where the numbers are.

SECTION. 2.

(1) shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a (2) who shall not have attained to the Age of (3) Years, and been seven Years a (4) of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.... (5)

- 1. Which chamber of congress is Section 2 talking about?
- 2. What role is missing here?
- 3. How old must they be to serve?
- 4. Seven years of being a what?
- 5. What does this last part mean? Can you put it in simpler language? (...be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen...)

SECTION. 3.

(1a) of the United States shall be composed of two (1b) from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each ... shall have one Vote.

No Person shall be a ...who shall not have attained to the Age of (2) Years, and been (3) Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he (4) shall be chosen.

- 1. (a) Which chamber of congress is Section 3 talking about? (b) What is this role called?
- 2. How old must they be to serve?
- 3. How long must they have been a citizen?
- 4. FYI: The first woman to be elected to this chamber was Hattie Caraway of Arkansas in 1932.

SECTION. 5.

...Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings (1), punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member ... (2)

- 1. Who makes the rules for how the House and Senate do their jobs?
- 2. CHALLENGE QUESTION: If the Senate wants to expel a member, how many senators have to agree?

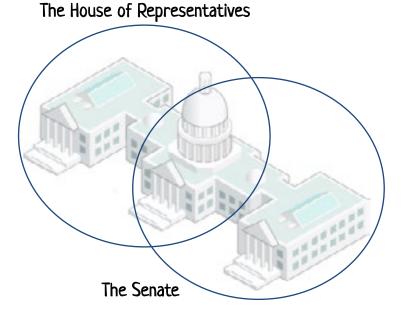


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A. Who does what? Read each statement and decide if it is about the House of Representatives, the Senate, or both! Write the letter on the diagram.

- A. Members represent an entire state
- B. Bills about taxes and money must start here
- C. Approves presidential appointments
- D. Members represent citizens
- E. Serve two-year terms
- F. Passes bills to the president to become laws
- G. There are 100 members of this chamber
- H. Can override a presidential veto with a 2/3 vote of support
- I. Must be at least 25 to serve in this chamber
- J. Led by the vice president of the U.S.
- K. Leader is called the "speaker"



- **B. Compromise!** The bills below are based on ideas found in real-life bills aimed at addressing the opioid addiction crisis. Follow the directions to see where common ground might be found.
- 1. <u>Read Both Bills.</u> Highlight the parts that the two versions have in common.

HOUSE BILL TO COMBAT OPIOID ADDICTION

- Fund addiction treatment programs by taxing companies that make opioids.
- Require training on specific topics for providers registered to prescribe opioids.
- Limit prescriptions to a 10-day supply with no refills.
- Require the diagnosis being treated with opioids to be clearly stated on the prescription.

SENATE BILL TO COMBAT OPIOID ADDICTION

- Impose a fee on people convicted of making or distributing opioids illegally, used to fund addiction treatment programs.
- Require 12 hours of training for providers registered to prescribe opioids.
- Limit prescriptions to a 7-day supply with no refills.
- Require practioners to prescribe a non-opioid painkiller first.

2. <u>Find a Solution.</u> Decide on two compromises that could be made and write them below. This will be your compromise bill.



3. <u>Get Support</u>. Which chamber will support your compromise the most? Would they both agree? Explain your answer.