

UNIT III CONGRESS

1. **True / False: A congress concerns itself mainly with legislative action; a parliament concerns itself with debate. (p. 275)**
2. **True / False: Not having to select the president makes members of Congress more powerful than if they did choose the president. (p. 276)**
3. **True / False: If Congress chose the president, as in a parliamentary system, members of Congress would be all the more powerful as a result. (p. 276)**
4. **True / False: At the beginning of the 104th Congress in 1995, Republicans controlled Congress for the first time in four decades. (p. 277)**
5. **True / False: Congress tends to be a decentralized institution, with all members more interested in their own views and those of their voters than with programs proposed by the president. (p. 278)**
6. **True / False: Most national political struggles in U.S. history have been between Congress and the president. (p. 279)**
7. **True / False: Until the twentieth century, and during some periods since, the major struggles for national political power have been struggles within Congress rather than between Congress and the president. (p. 179)**
8. **True / False: Committee chairmanships in the House did not become elective until after 1960. (p. 282)**
9. **True / False: The empowerment of individual members of the House in the 1970s and the 1980s made getting anything done harder. (p. 282)**
10. **True / False: When the Republicans gained control of the House in 1994, they reduced the power of the Speaker and further decentralized power in the House. (p. 282)**
11. **True / False: Until passage of the Seventeenth Amendment in 1913, senators were chosen by popular elections rather than by state legislatures. (p. 283)**
12. **True / False: In general, the Senate has been slower than the House to change from being all white and all male. (p. 284)**
13. **True / False: Incumbents and challengers generally have an equal chance of winning a congressional election. (p. 285)**
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15. **True / False: Democrats, more so than Republicans, have been the beneficiaries of incumbency. (p. 288)**
16. **True / False: The size of the party majority in Congress is important because members of Congress do not always vote along strict party lines. (p. 287)**
17. **True / False: By requiring that congressional districts be of almost exactly equal populations, the courts have guaranteed fair districts. (p. 291)**

18. True / False: The shape of a congressional district can have a real effect on which party wins the election. (p. 290)
19. True / False: In primary elections, an incumbent rarely fails to win nomination. (p. 292)
20. True / False: The one thing that a congressional candidate cannot get away with in a campaign is an attack on Congress itself. (p. 293)
21. True / False: A clever congressional candidate often attacks the very institution to which he or she is seeking election. (p. 295)
22. True / False: Senators tend to be less in tune with public opinion than House members are. (p. 297)
23. True / False: Senators, more so than representatives, tend to cast their votes in accordance with their constituents' opinions. (p. 297)
24. True / False: Today, American voters are more sharply divided by political ideology than are members of Congress. (p. 298)
25. True / False: All of Congress's most liberal members are Republicans, and all of its most conservative ones are Democrats. (p. 298)
26. True / False: A result of the recent polarization of Congress is that members of Congress (especially in the House) are more likely to challenge, investigate, and denounce each other. (p. 298)
27. True / False: A result of recent polarization of Congress is that members of Congress *especially in the House) do not get along as well as they once did with members who disagree with them. (p. 298)
28. True / False: In the Senate, the position of majority leader carries more clout than that of president pro tempore. (p. 299)
29. True / False: A senator interested in exercising influence would prefer to become president pro tempore rather than majority leader. (p. 299)
30. True / False: Each party in the Senate and House has a party whip. (p. 299)
31. True / False: Senate leaders in general have more power than House leaders in general. (p. 299)
32. True / False: House leaders have much more power than Senate leaders. (p. 299)
33. True / False: By the 1990s, party unity voting was the norm in both the House and Senate. (p. 302)
34. True / False: The Democratic Study Group (DSG) is a good example of a congressional caucus. (p. 305)
35. True / False: The Republicans in Congress during the mid-1990s made it more difficult for caucuses to operate. (p. 305-306)
36. True / False: Congressional power is exercised primarily by committees. (p. 306)

37. True / False: Most of the power of Congress is found in the parties rather than in committees and caucuses. (p. 306)
38. True / False: A standing committee is a group appointed for a limited purpose and usually lasts for only a few congresses. (p. 306)
39. True / False: A manifestation of decentralization is the House rule that a member may serve on only two standing committees and may chair no more than one. (p. 208)
40. True / False: The limit on the number of standing committees on which a representative can serve is additional evidence of the increasing centralization of Congress. (p. 308)
41. True / False: One advantage of having committee rules is that the chair people have to obey those rules irrespective of ideology. (p. 308)
42. True / False: Congressional staff members play a large role in the ability of incumbents to get reelected. (p. 310)
43. True / False: Because the main function of the staff of a member of Congress is to help constituents solve problems, the staff do not have a great deal of time to help the member get reelected. (p. 310)
44. True / False: The GAO, OTA, and CBO are initials of key congressional staff agencies. (p. 311)
45. True / False: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is the most important congressional staff agency. (p. 311)
46. True / False: A bill to spend money or to tax or regulate business is most likely to move through Congress slowly. (p. 311)
47. True / False: An antidrug bill or a bill to aid the elderly is most likely to move through Congress slowly. (p. 311)
48. True / False: Bills are referred randomly to various committees so that the outcomes are not affected. (p. 314)
49. True / False: The choice of a committee to which a bill is referred is sometimes politically important. (p. 314)
50. True / False: The U.S. Constitution provided that a tax-reform bill must first be considered by the House Ways and Means Committee. (p. 314)
51. True / False: All measures dealing with taxes or appropriations must originate in the Senate. (p. 314)
52. True / False: The sequential referral system, whereby the Speaker is allowed to send a bill to a second committee after the first is finished acting, was abolished in 1995. (p. 315)
53. True / False: Recently, the number of bills debated under open rules has increased. (p. 315)
54. True / False: In general, the Senate operates under more rules than the House on matters of when and how a bill is to be debated. (p. 316)

55. True / False: The Senate has no rules limiting debate. (p. 317)
56. True / False: *Cloture* refers to the legislative process by which senators can end a filibuster. (p. 317)
57. True / False: As a result of a double-tracking, the number filibusters in the Senate has skyrocketed. (p. 317)
58. True / False: As a result of double-tracking, the number of filibusters in the Senate has greatly decreased. (p. 317)
59. True / False: The votes of individual members on many bills are not recorded. (p. 318)
60. True / False: The president is required to sign a bill that has been approved by Congress. (p. 319)
61. True / False: A vote to override a presidential veto requires both a roll call and a two-thirds majority in both houses. (p. 319)
62. True / False: Many reformers believe that the way to end policy gridlock is by making Congress capable of speedy, decisive action. (p. 320)
63. True / False: Article I, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution provides for term limits imposed by states. (p. 320)
64. True / False: Congress does not have to obey laws such as the Civil Rights Act, the equal Pay Act, the Age Discrimination Act, and the Family and Medical Leave Act. (p. 323)
65. True / False: Personal friendships and political alliances, as well as money, are a frequent source of political corruption. (p. 325)
66. True / False: House members may not accept free meals and drinks from lobbyists or others seeking favor. (p. 325)
67. True / False: Ethics rules favor people with inherited rather than earned wealth. (p. 325)
68. True / False: Exercising strong leadership in the House has usually been more difficult than in the Senate. (p. 329)
69. True / False: An example of Congress's resurgent authority in the 1970s was passage of the War Powers Act in 1973. (p. 329)
70. True / False: Recent presidents have complained bitterly about their inability to secure congressional action. (p. 330)