**Congressional Districts**

* **Single-Member:**
	+ The voters in each District elect on of the State’s Representatives.
* **At-Large:**
	+ Elected from the State as a whole, rather than from a particular district.
* **Gerrymandering:**
	+ Districts that have been drawn to the advantage of the political party that controls the State’s legislature.

**The Senate:**

* Originally the Senate was chosen by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Legislatures
* **Continuous Body:**
	+ A governing unit whose seats are never all up for election at the same time.

**Congressional Duties:**

* Legislatures
* Committee members
* Representatives of their constituents
* politicians

**Officers of the Legislative Branch:**

* Speaker of the House
	+ Presiding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the House
	+ Job: acknowledges speakers, signs bills, and appoints committees, calls a vote.
* President of the Senate-
	+ V.P.
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power
	+ Presiding officer but may not speak or debate
* President pro tempore
	+ Resides in V.P.’s absence
	+ Elected by the Senate
* Majority Party Leader
* Floor leaders:
	+ majority and minority in the House and Senate
	+ Legislative strategists
* Committee Chairmen
	+ Heads of standing committees
	+ Chosen by majority
	+ Usually by seniority rule

**Committees in Congress:**

* **Standing committee:**
	+ permanent groups which all similar bills could be sent. (Ex. Budget committee)
* **Select committee-**
	+ a special group set up for a specific purpose for a limited time. (ex. Senate Watergate Committee)
* **Joint Committees-**
	+ members from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ houses.
* **Informal groupings-**
	+ Black caucus, democratic study group, House Republican study group, pro-Life caucus, etc.
* **Conference Committee-**
	+ temporary joint body to iron out different versions of a measure

**SESSIONS:**

* A session of Congress is that period of time during which, each year, Congress assembles and conducts business.
* There are two sessions to each term of Congress, one each year.
* Article II, Section III Of the Constitution does give the President the powers to **Porogue.**
	+ End, Discontinue a session, but only when the two houses cannot agree on a date for adjournment. No President has ever had to use that power.

**SPECIAL SESSION:**

* Only the President may call Congress into Special Session.
	+ A meeting to deal with some emergency situation. Only 26 special sessions of Congress have even been held.