

16. Most of the actual work of legislating is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. performed by interest groups and then acted on by Congress
  - b. accomplished in state legislatures and then acted upon by Congress
  - c. performed by the president and then accepted routinely by Congress
  - d. performed by the committees and subcommittees within Congress
  - e. undertaken through a series of floor votes in the respective chambers
17. In the House of Representatives, the discharge petition is used to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. force the Speaker to take action on a bill
  - b. prevent the president from using the pocket veto
  - c. force a bill out of committee so that the entire House can vote on it
  - d. delay action on a bill that has the support of the majority
  - e. adjourn for the remainder of the session
18. The most important committees in Congress are \_\_\_\_\_ committees, permanent bodies that possess an expertise due to their jurisdiction over certain policy areas.
- a. conference
  - b. joint
  - c. legislative
  - d. select
  - e. standing

19. The House of Representatives and the Senate are most similar to each other in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- checks they have on the power of the president
  - way they select their presiding officer
  - number of members they have
  - power standing committees have in the legislative process
  - power of the Rules Committee to set the rules for floor debate
20. A \_\_\_\_\_ committee is established for a limited time period and for a special purpose.
- conference
  - joint
  - oversight
  - select
  - standing
21. The job of a conference committee is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- originate appropriations bills
  - reconcile House and Senate versions of a bill
  - set the rules of debate for a bill
  - determine the committee path of a bill
  - override a presidential veto
22. The seniority system provides that \_\_\_\_\_.
- members are awarded additional committee assignments in line with their seniority
  - the committee member of the majority party with the longest continuous service normally becomes the committee chairperson
  - members become party whips in order of seniority
  - members of the House can be appointed to the Senate to fill vacancies
  - the Speaker of the House is the member of the majority party with the longest continuous service
23. Generally, leaders in the House of Representatives \_\_\_\_\_.
- have more control over the agenda of the body than leaders in the Senate
  - must work closely with the other party's leaders to achieve success
  - are considered weak compared to party leaders
  - hold more power than leaders in true party government legislatures
  - need to overcome the unusual power of individual members
24. The whips assist the party leaders by \_\_\_\_\_.
- voting to support the party platform at the national convention
  - attempting to convince the general public that congresspersons should vote the party line
  - passing information to members of Congress from the leadership of the party
  - gathering research information to use in committee
  - pressuring them to take positions popular among the party rank-and-file

25. When a member chooses to "cross the aisle," he or she is \_\_\_\_\_.
- opting to run for reelection in the other house of Congress
  - switching his or her party affiliation for future votes
  - changing his or her party affiliation for future elections
  - selecting to sit in a different seat of his or her house for him or her to network with other representatives
  - choosing to vote with members of the opposing political party
26. Most people who study the decision-making process in Congress agree that the single best predictor for how a member will vote is his or her \_\_\_\_\_.
- affiliation with organized interest groups
  - age
  - length of time in Congress
  - party affiliation
  - region
27. Democratic members of Congress from moderate districts who sometimes vote with Republicans and who are frequently pursued by Republican leaders are known as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Blue Dog Democrats
  - fence sitters
  - logrolling democrats
  - pork barrelers
  - swing voters
28. A congressional earmark allows \_\_\_\_\_.
- for deficit spending rather than balancing the federal budget
  - the president more discretionary funds that can be channeled to where the money is most needed
  - the government to spend money on a specific project
  - a tax loophole for a specific corporation
  - the funding required for entitlement programs
29. According to the Constitution, all bills for raising revenue \_\_\_\_\_.
- are introduced by the president
  - must start in the Senate
  - must originate in the House
  - must originate in conference committee
  - must receive a two-thirds vote in both houses
30. The federal government's fiscal year runs from \_\_\_\_\_.
- January through December
  - April through March
  - July through June
  - August through July
  - October through September