

# The Legislative Branch

**Directions** Fill in the outline below. Filling in the blanks will help you as you read and study Chapter 4.

## I. Lesson 1: The Congress (pp. 72–75)

### A. The Legislative Branch

1. The legislative branch is called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Congress is divided into two parts called the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. The Senate

1. There are \_\_\_\_\_ senators from each state and \_\_\_\_\_ total senators.
2. The leader of the Senate is also the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When the leader of the Senate is absent, the \_\_\_\_\_ takes his or her place.
4. A candidate for the Senate must be at least \_\_\_\_\_ years old, a U.S. citizen for \_\_\_\_\_ years, and a \_\_\_\_\_ of the state he or she wants to represent.

### C. The House of Representatives

1. The number of representatives per state depends on \_\_\_\_\_.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ members of the House of Representatives.
3. The leader of the House is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A candidate for the House must be at least \_\_\_\_\_ years old, a U.S. citizen for \_\_\_\_\_ years, and a \_\_\_\_\_ of the state and district he or she wants to represent.

## The Legislative Branch, continued

### II. Lesson 2: How Congress Does Its Work (pp. 76–82)

#### A. Terms of Congress

1. A term of Congress is divided into \_\_\_\_\_, which begin in \_\_\_\_\_ of each year.
2. Congress \_\_\_\_\_ when its work is completed.

#### B. The Duties of Congress

1. The most important duty of Congress is \_\_\_\_\_.

#### C. How Bills Become Laws

1. Bills are introduced in the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The group that decides whether to send a bill to the House or Senate for a vote is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. A bill passed by both houses is sent to \_\_\_\_\_.

#### D. The President's Role

1. If the president signs a bill, \_\_\_\_\_.
2. If the president vetoes the bill, \_\_\_\_\_.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ happens when the president does nothing with a bill and Congress adjourns.

#### E. Types of Committees

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a permanent committee that considers certain topics.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is made up of members of the House and Senate.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is set up for a limited time.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ handles differences in a bill.

## The Legislative Branch, continued

### III. Lesson 3: Powers of Congress (pp. 83–85)

#### A. Powers Given to Congress

1. Congress raises and collects \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Congress passes laws to protect \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Congress created the \_\_\_\_\_ to defend the nation.
4. Congress's other powers include:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Limits to the Powers of Congress

1. Congress cannot make laws that go against the \_\_\_\_\_ or take away rights given by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The states, not Congress, make laws about \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### C. New Problems Arise

1. Article I, Section 8 is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. This allows Congress to be \_\_\_\_\_ when making decisions.

## The Legislative Branch

**Directions** Read each clue. Then choose the correct word from the Word Bank to complete the puzzle.

### Word Bank

citizen

representative

Speaker

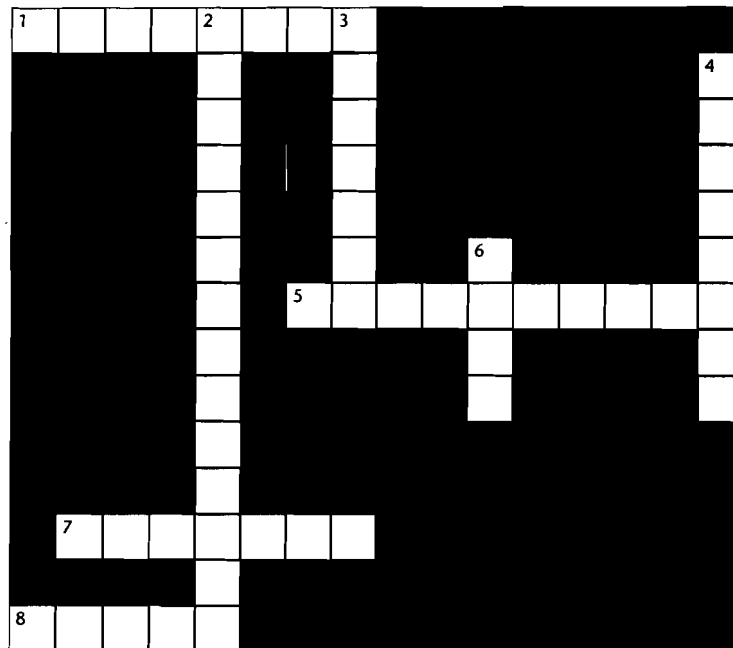
Congress

resident

term

pro tempore

serve



### Across

1. the lawmaking branch of government
5. the leader of the Senate when the vice president is absent
7. a person who was born or lives in a certain place and has certain rights because of that
8. to spend a period of time carrying out a duty

### Down

2. a person who is given the power to act for others
3. the leader of the House of Representatives
4. a person who lives in a place
6. a period of time something lasts

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Activity

Chapter 4, Lesson 2

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# The U.S. Congress

**Part A Directions** Write one or two sentences to explain each type of congressional committee.

1. Standing committee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Subcommittee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Joint committee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Select committee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Conference committee \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Part B Directions** Circle the word in parentheses that correctly completes each statement.

6. A new (bill, vote) is introduced to the House or Senate.
7. (Floor, Minority) leaders tell members of Congress about new bills.
8. The bill is given a (name, number) and title.
9. The bill is sent to the proper (committee, representative) for study.
10. The committee decides to (consider, pass) or drop the bill.
11. If approved, the bill goes to the House or Senate (budget, calendar).
12. Both House and Senate must (reject, approve) a bill before it goes to the president.
13. The president signs or (vetoes, amends) a bill.
14. Congress (begins, adjourns) each session when the work is completed.
15. A tax bill must begin in the (Senate, House).



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Activity

Chapter 4, Lesson 3

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## Powers of Congress

**Directions** Read each statement. Decide if the statement describes a power of Congress. Write *Yes* if Congress has the power. Write *No* if Congress does not have the power.

1. Congress can determine the requirements for citizenship. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Congress can decide whether to admit new states to the United States. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Congress can pass laws that do not follow the Constitution. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Congress can set standards for weights and measures. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Congress can raise and collect taxes. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Congress can pass laws dealing with education. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Congress can take money away from the federal government without passing a law. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Congress can declare war. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Congress can set aside money to support national military schools. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Congress can make laws that take away rights granted in the Bill of Rights. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Congress can pass laws about marriage. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Congress can make laws necessary to carry out its duties. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Congress can pass laws about elections. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Congress can run the system of national highways. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Congress can defend the nation against enemies. \_\_\_\_\_

