

Vocab

Anarchy - a government - nation - a state without government and laws
 an institution through which leaders exercise power to make and enforce laws affecting the people under its control
 group of people united by bonds of race, language, custom, tradition, and sometimes religion

state - a political community that occupies a definite territory and has an organized government
 country - a political community that occupies a definite territory and has an organized government
 sovereignty - the supreme and absolute authority within territorial boundaries

divine right - the idea that people are chosen by a god or gods rule
 social contract - theory that by contract, people surrender to the state the power needed to maintain order and the state, in turn, agrees to protect its citizens
 unitary system - a government that gives all key powers to the national or central government

Vocab (cont)

confederacy - a loose union of independent states
 federal system - a government that divides the powers of government between the national government and state or provincial governments
 constitution - a plan that provides the rules for government

constitutional government - a government in which a constitution has authority to place clearly recognized limits on the powers of those who govern
 authoritarian - controlling all aspects of citizens' economic, political, and social lives
 totalitarian - a system of government in which the government has total control

dictatorship - a system of government in which power is in the hands of one person who has total control
 oligarchy - a system of government in which a small group holds power
 monarchy - a system of government in which a king, queen, or emperor exercises supreme powers of government

Vocab (cont)

democracy - government in which the people rule
 republic - a government in which voters hold sovereign power; elected representatives, responsible to the people, exercise that power
 limited government - the concept that a government's power was not absolute

representative government - a government in which people elect delegates to make laws and conduct government
 amendment - change to the constitution
 enumerated powers - a list of items, found in Article I, Section 8 of the constitution, that set forth the authoritative capacity of Congress

jurisdiction - the limits of territory within which authority may be exercised
 judicial review - the power of the Supreme Court to declare laws and actions of local, state, or national governments unconstitutional
 federalism - a system of government in which two or more governments exercise power over the same people and the same territory



Vocab (cont)

delegated powers - powers the constitution grants or delegates to the national government	expressed powers - powers directly stated in the Constitution	implied powers - powers the government requires to carry out its expressed constitutional powers
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reserved powers - powers that belong strictly to the states	concurrent powers - powers that both the national government and the states have	federal grant - a sum of money given to a state or local government for a specific purpose
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mandate - a formal order given by a higher authority	bicameral legislature - a two-chamber legislature	reapportionment - the process of reassigning representation based on population, after every census
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gerrymander - to draw a district's boundaries to gain an advantage in elections	incumbent - elected official who is already in office	constituent - a person whom a member of Congress has been elected to represent
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Vocab (cont)

caucus - a private meeting of party leaders to choose candidates for office	quorum - the minimum number of members who must be present to permit a legislative body to take official action	hold - a motion placed on a bill in the Senate that alerts party leaders that if unanimous consent were to be sought, they would object
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filibuster - a method of defending a bill in the Senate by stalling the legislative process and preventing a vote	cloture resolution - a procedure that allows each senator to speak only one hour on a bill under debate	standing committee - a permanent committee in Congress that oversees bills that deal with certain kinds of issues
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select committee - a temporary committee formed to study one specific issue and report its findings to the House or Senate	joint committee - a committee that consists of members from both the House and Senate, formed to act as a study group that reports back to the House and Senate on a topic or bill	conference committee - a temporary joint committee set up when the House and the Senate have passed different versions of the same bill
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Vocab (cont)

appropriation - approval of government spending	divided government - when one party controls the White House and the other controls the House and Senate	joint resolution - a resolution passed in the same form by both houses in Congress (can be used to pass a law, must be passed by both chambers and presented to the president)
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simple resolution - covers matters affecting only one house of congress and is passed by that house alone (no law necessary)	concurrent resolution - covers matters requiring the action of both houses but on which law is not needed	rider - a provision on a subject other than the one covered in the bill
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earmark - part of a funding bill that will go toward a certain purpose	pork barrel legislation - laws that are passed by Congress to appropriate money for local federal projects	logrolling - an agreement by two or more lawmakers to support each other's bills
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Amending the Constitution

Proposal	Ratification
proposed by 2/3 vote of both houses ->	passage by 3/4 of state legislature

Amending the Constitution (cont)

OR proposed by 2/3 vote of national convention called by Congress on request of 2/3 state legislatures	OR by 3/4 of special state conventions
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Reapportionment Process

- Census (population count)
- Congress determines # of reps for each state
- States are informed
- States create districts (must be equal in population, continuous, and compact)

Gerrymandering Processes

Cracking

- spreading like-minded voters among multiple districts to dilute their impact and prevent them from constituting a majority

Packing

- concentrating like-minded voters in a single district, allowing the other party to win the remaining districts

Bill Processes

House

- sponsor(s) & numbered (introduced in house)

- assigned to committee by Speaker of the House (MOST BILLS DIE HERE) (gets marked up, referred to standing committee for study, hearings, revisions, and approval)

Senate

- introduced to senate and assigned to committee

- referred to standing committee for study, hearings, revisions, and approval

Bill Processes (cont)

- rules committee sets conditions for debate and amendment on the floor (put on calendar (open/closed rule))	- debated, then passed or defeated (no limits to debate...filibuster, cloture motion (puts end to filibuster))
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- conference committee resolves differences between both houses of Congress versions of bill

- Congress vote on final passage, approved bill is sent to the president

- the president signs, vetos, or allows it to become law without signing (veto returns to Congress; veto may be overridden)

Federalist & Anti-Federalist Arguments

Federalist

- power needed to be divided between the states and the national government

- the new government needed a strong executive

Anti-Federalist

- executive branch has too much power

- the "necessary and proper" clause gave too much power to Congress

- since all rights can't be listed in the body of the constitution, it is better to add a bill of rights AFTER ratification

- no bill of rights has been proposed

- because all branches were equal, no branch could maintain an army in peacetime

- the national government could maintain an army in peacetime

- in a republican form of government, representation is based on the consent of the governed

- the proposed constitution gave too much power to the national government at the expense of the states

Congress

House of Reps

- members chosen every 2 years by the people

Senate

- composed of 2 senators from each state

Congress

- must get together at least once a year (on Jan.3rd)

- must be 25, citizen for 7 years, can not live in the state they serve

- divided equally into 3 classes (class 1: every 2 years, class 2: every 4 years, class 3: every 6 years)

- if a bill is not returned by the president in 10 days (no sundays), it will become law

- can choose the speaker of the house (2nd in line to be president)

- must be 30, citizen for 9 years, can not live in the state they represent

- have sole power of impeachment

- vice president is president of the senate but has no vote unless there is a tie

- bills for taxing originate in the house of reps

- choose their other officers and pro tempore

- tries all impeachments

Powers of Congress

Expressed Powers

1. to lay and collect taxes

Implied Powers

1. regulate sale of alcohol

Inherent Powers



Powers of Congress (cont)

2. to borrow money	1. punish tax evaders	
3. to regulate commerce	1. create the IRS	3. to grant or deny diplomatic recognition to other countries
4. to establish uniform laws of naturalization	2. establish a bank	4. control the nation's borders
5. to establish post offices and post roads	3. set minimum wage	
6. to declare war	3. protect the disabled	6. defend the government from revolutions
7. to raise/-support/maintain a military	3. prohibit discrimination	
	4. limit # of immigrants	
	5. prohibits mail fraud	
	5. prohibits the shipments of certain products	
	6. establish a draft	
	7. to build the highway system	

Congress (2023)

House of Reps	Senate
Speaker of the House- Kevin McCarthy	President of the Senate- Kamala Harris
House Majority Leader- Steve Scalise	President Pro Tempore- Patty Murray
House Minority Leader- Hakeem Jeffries	Senate Majority Leader- Chuck Schumer
House Majority Whip- Tom Emmer	Senate Minority Leader- Mitch McConnell
House Minority Whip- Katherine Clark	Senate Majority Whip- Durbin Richard J.
	Senate Minority Whip- John Thune



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Not published yet.

Last updated 6th September, 2023.

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