Government Congress Review Sheet

Senator: 6 years in office, minimum 30 years old, citizen 9 years, resident of state

House of Representative: 2 years in office, minimum 25 years old, citizen 7 years, resident of state

President: must be a US citizen

Conference Committee/Joint Committee: this committee goes over the House and Senate versions of combined bill

Speaker of the House: most important and in charge of House of Representatives

1. Reads bill to everyone
2. Send bill to appropriate committee
3. Send bill to floor to debate and vote
4. Determines who is allowed to speak

Writ of Habeas Corpus: given your criminal rights, cannot be taken away

Restaurants are integrated because of Interstate Commerce

Senate: debating is unlimited

Filibuster: trying to delay the vote of a bill

Cloture: vote to eliminate the debate (3/5 of senators), very seldom done because we want freedom of debate

Necessary and Proper Clause (Elastic Clause): constitution can be stretched, but always goes back to original form

Pork Belly Legislation: congress gives money for local projects

House Rules Committee: if a bill is different in both houses, this committee works to make the bill come together

All revenue bills start in the House

Declares war~ legislative branch

Copyright (life of author + 50 years) ~ legislative branch

Coining/making money~ legislative branch

Issue a pardon~ executive branch

Rider: everything added on to a bill, attachment to the bill

Joint resolution: has the force of law

members of congress have to balance needs of the nation as well constituents

powers of congress limited by: president veto, supreme court, constitution,

most important job of congress: make laws

president vetoes a bill, can be overturned by 2/3 house and senate vote

bicameral = 2 houses

majority and minority leaders assisted by a Whip

every 10 years: census for population

gerrymandering: setting up new congressional districts based on census

Article 1 Section 8 of constitution: expressed powers of congress

Flow of work in congress controlled by the majority party

Committee chairpersons: based on seniority

Joseph McCarthy: accused everyone of being communist (Red Scare)

RPM~ Imperialism: resources, power, market

Bias: favor one side

Protest law if felt unjust ex. Burning draft cards (civil disobedience)

Americans with Disabilities had their own protests for access similar to Civil Rights Movement

Checks and balances: each branch of government keeps an eye on the other branches

Congress makes laws, president can veto, supreme court can overturn it

President can do this to a bill:

Sign it

Leave it alone

Veto it and pocket Veto