

# Legislative Branch Lesson Answer Key

## The Legislative Branch

Page 1

### Reading text only

The legislative branch is one part of the U.S. government.

The legislative branch is also called Congress.

Congress makes federal laws.

There are two parts of Congress:

- Senate
- House of Representatives

## The U.S. Senate

Page 2

There are one hundred members in the U.S. Senate.

Each state has two U.S. Senators.

A Senator represents all of the people in one state.

If a state has a small population, like Hawaii, there are two U.S. Senators.

If a state has a large population, like New York, there are two U.S. Senators.

This way, every state has an equal vote in the Senate.

We elect U.S. Senators for six years.

Voting for your senator is an important right and responsibility.

Who is one of your state's U.S. Senators now?

**current Senator's name**

## The U.S. House of Representatives

Page 3

The U.S. House of Representatives has 435 voting members.

The number of U.S. Representatives for each state depends on the population.

Some states have more representatives because they have more people.

If the state has a large population, there are more representatives.

For example, Texas has a large population. In 2010, Texas had 32 representatives.

If the state has a small population, there are fewer representatives.

For example, Wyoming has a small population. In 2010, Wyoming had one representative.

We elect U.S. Representatives for two years.

Voting for your representative is an important right and responsibility.

Name your U.S. Representative.

**current U.S. Representative's name**

Why do some states have more Representatives than other states?

**because some states have more people.**

## More About the U.S. Congress

Page 4—top

The Speaker of the House is in charge of the U.S. House of Representatives.

What is the name of the Speaker of the House of Representatives now? **Paul D. Ryan**

If the President and the Vice President can no longer serve, the Speaker of the House becomes President.

## Review—The U.S. Congress

Page 4—middle

Read the sentences.

Write the correct number in each sentence.

1. Congress has **2** parts, the Senate and the House of Representatives.
2. The U.S. House of Representatives has **435** voting members.
3. We elect a U.S. Representative for **2** years.
4. We elect a U.S. Senator for **6** years.
5. There are **100** U.S. Senators.

## Participating in American Democracy

Page 4—bottom

What are two ways that Americans can participate in their democracy?

Acceptable answers:

1. **vote**
2. **join a political party**
3. **help with a campaign**
4. **join a civic group**
5. **join a community group**
6. **give an elected official your opinion on an issue**
7. **call Senators and Representatives**
8. **publicly support or oppose an issue or policy**
9. **run for office**
10. **write to a newspaper**

## Word Puzzle—U.S. Congress

Page 5

Read the sentences. Write the words in the sentences.

Fill in the letters for each word in the puzzle.

1. Congress meets in the **Capitol** building.
2. Some states have more representatives because they have more **people**.
3. There are one **hundred** Senators in the U.S. Senate.

4. There are three branches of **government**.
5. The House of **Representatives** has 435 voting members.
6. We **elect** Senators for six years.
7. The **Senate** is one part of Congress.
8. Congress makes federal **laws**.

1. **C A P I T O L**
2. **P E O P L E**
3. **H U N D R E D**
4. **G O V E R N M E N T**
5. **R E P R E S E N T A T I V E S**
6. **E L E C T**
7. **S E N A T E**
8. **L A W S**

## Congress

Page 6

Copy this word.

Congress

Copy the Civics Test question and answer.

Who makes federal laws? Congress.