Your Name

Instructor Name

Course Number

Date

Quiz

# Question Answers

1. Congress uses committees to get work done. List and explain the four types/categories of committees which are used in Congress.

Answer: There are three main types of committees in U.S Congress which are standing committees, select or special committees and joint committees related to other administrative tasks. Other committees such as the party committee, task force committee and committee of a congressional member organization are different from those of established committees. Task force committees are formed by resolutions, joint committee constitutes members of both houses (Senate and Congress), whereas the select or special committees are formed by separate resolutions of the houses.

1. What is the role of the Speaker of the House in the House of Representatives? What is the Vice President’s role in the Senate?

Answer: The role of the speaker of the House of Representatives is more like the custodian of the house. He or She acts as the presiding officer of the House, administers the oath of office of the members and works to maintain order and decorum of the house. In addition to this he also recognizes the members to speak on the floor of the house. Other than overseeing the Presidential tasks in the absence of the President of the United States, the Vice President's role in the Senate is constitutional. Vice President is not allowed to preside over a session of the Senate or cast a vote (just in case of breaking a tie).

1. Explain the role of the Congressional Budget Office. Are they important in controlling how Congress allocates money? Why?

Answer: The Congressional budget office role is non- partisan. It produces an independent analysis of budgetary and economic issues presented to Congress. This office issue reports about budget allocations and provide analysis relevant to the tasks in hand of Congress. The Congressional budget office releases annual reports and proposes the cost estimation for the proposed legislation. The Budget Office cannot recommend policy changes to Congress. In consideration of all these roles, the Congressional budget office role is important.

1. What is the Office of Management and Budget? What do they do for the President?

Answer: The office of the Management and Budget is the largest Office inside the executive offices of the President of the United States. The OMB is required to produce the Presidential budgets. In addition to this, it looks after the policies and quality of the agencies programs and analyzes if they comply with the President's policies and the coordinates of the policy initiatives.

1. Who has control of the budget for the United States? Explain the role of the President and Congress in allocating the money throughout the country.

Answer: The control of the United States budget largely rests with Congress. It looks after the role of other executive branches in the allocation and usage of the federal budget. There is a notion that since each U.S citizen is affected by the way how the government allocates budget, therefore its control should rest with the Congress. The role of President and Congress is relevant in budget allocation to regions and countries with strategic and security concerns. They cannot dictate the Congress for allocating money throughout the country.

1. What is the Hatch Act and what does it do? Do we still need this Act to protect government workers?

Answer: The Hatch Act of 1939 was passed to control the political activities of the Federal government employees. Since the involvement of the federal employees in politics creates hurdles in their job performance, therefore they are regulated by the terms defined in this Act. By this Act, the federal employees are restricted from sending petitions while their presence in the office. The United States still need this act as it prevents the federal employees to distract their attention towards political activities while they are at work.

1. Explain the structure of the federal court system.

Answer: The structure of the federal court system of the United States rests upon three main levels. The United States district courts, the United States circuit court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. In the United States, each level of the court oversees a different kind of legal cases and serves differently to the legal system. In addition to this, both civil and criminal cases are brought in front of the same federal court system.

1. Why is a defense attorney important in our court system? How does his role protect people?

Answer: The defense attorney speaks in favor of the people who are charged with criminal activities. The defense attorneys specialize in the defense of individuals and the companies working inside the United States. There are a number of defense attorneys who work individually and retain private offices whereas some work for the government within various jurisdictions with criminal courts. The defense attorney speaks in favor of the people who are charged with criminal offenses.

1. What is the Iron Triangle? Explain how it works.

Answer: The Iron triangle comprises the policy-making relationship in the United States. It elaborates how the three arms of the United States administration are bound to one another in discharging their duties. The three arms include the Congressional Committees, the Bureaucracy, and the interest group. The Iron Trainable as a concept was introduced by Gordon Adams in 1981. There is a general consideration that it works mostly in a clash with each other as the three remains busy in consolidating their power bases.

1. What is lobbying? Is it legal? Can private citizens lobby Congress or the Government?

Answer: The act of Lobbying includes persuasions, importuning and influencing the policymaking framework. The Congressman normally influences the policy-making processes. Normally lobbying is observed during the decision-making process pertaining to the strategic and security-related matters. Generally, it is considered that according to the article I of the constitution of the United States of America, lobbying falls under abridging the right of people. Therefore, it is considered legal. The private interest groups have been observed influencing the Congressional proceedings.