

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–3 refer to the passage below.

We have before us one of the most important duties of the U.S. Senate and of the U.S. Congress, and that is to decide whether or not we will be involved in war. I think it is inexcusable that the debate over whether we involve the country in war, in another country's civil war, that this would be debated as part of a spending bill, and not as part of an independent, free-standing bill . . . I think it is a sad day for the U.S. Senate. It goes against our history. It goes against the history of the country.

—Senator Rand Paul, Senate Floor Speech, September 18, 2014

1. Which of the following statements best summarizes this excerpt from Senator Paul's speech?
 - (A) The United States should not become involved in another country's civil war.
 - (B) The president should not have war-making authority except in an emergency.
 - (C) The military intervention the United States is considering needs a spending appropriation.
 - (D) The U.S. Senate should decide on war-like action on its merits, not along with other legislation.
2. Which power of Congress is Senator Paul probably most concerned about based on this passage?
 - (A) Congress's power to tax and spend
 - (B) The Senate's power to ratify treaties
 - (C) The expressed power to declare war
 - (D) The power to regulate interstate commerce
3. Which foreign policy reality might limit what the Senate can do in this scenario?
 - (A) The reserved powers clause requires House approval for military intervention.
 - (B) The president's power to declare war on foreign nations overrides the Senate's power to declare war.
 - (C) The Senate requires advice and consent power from the president to act in war.
 - (D) The War Powers Act gives the president freedom to act with the military for a limited time.

4. In what way did the Seventeenth Amendment broaden democracy?
- (A) It extended voting rights to women.
 - (B) It allowed citizens to alter the Electoral College.
 - (C) It gave citizens greater impact on lawmaking in the U.S. Senate.
 - (D) It extended voting rights to African Americans.
5. With which statement would a Seventeenth Amendment supporter agree?
- (A) Indirect democracy is necessary in lawmaking.
 - (B) Legislatures should be representative bodies.
 - (C) A senatorial hold is a device to guarantee democracy.
 - (D) State governments, not the federal government, should elect senators.

Questions 6 and 7 refer to the table below.

AVERAGE AGE OF MEMBERS, 112TH-115TH CONGRESSES (2011-2018)				
Average (mean) age at the beginning of the Congress				
Congress	Representatives	Newly Elected Representatives	Senators	Newly Elected Senators
115th	57.8 years	50.8 years	61.8 years	54.8 years
114th	57.0 years	52.3 years	61.0 years	50.7 years
113th	57.0 years	49.2 years	62.0 years	53.0 years
112th	56.7 years	48.2 years	62.2 years	52.1 years

6. Which of the following statements is reflected in the table above?
- (A) Newly elected members are older than the other members.
 - (B) Senators, on average, are younger than representatives.
 - (C) The 115th Congress had the youngest newly elected Senators.
 - (D) Newly elected senators were on average older than newly elected House members.
7. Which of the following is an accurate conclusion based on the data in the table above?
- (A) Older people vote more frequently, and they want older people serving them.
 - (B) It takes years to get through law school before one can run for Congress.
 - (C) Levels of reelection in both the House and Senate are high.
 - (D) The Constitution requires these lawmakers to be 50 or older.

8. A senator realizes a Senate vote on an immigration bill is coming up. The senator examines public opinion polls on the issue and carefully reads her inbox for constituents' views on the bill and the issue. This senator is following which model of representation?
- (A) Trustee
 - (B) Politico
 - (C) Delegate
 - (D) Partisan
9. Which of the following is an accurate comparison of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate?

	HOUSE	SENATE
(A)	Allows filibusters until a majority vote defeats the filibuster	Is a 101-member body, as the vice-president can vote on all bills
(B)	Has committees chaired by members in the minority	Is first in the lawmaking process when it comes to tax law
(C)	Has more rules of procedure to guide its lawmaking process	Has authority over the ratification of treaties with other nations
(D)	Is solely in charge of declaring war	Has the sole power of impeachment

10. Which of the following statements about congressional reapportionment and redistricting is true?
- (A) The federal government redraws district maps every 10 years after each census.
 - (B) Districts must be drawn so that, within a state, every person's vote is roughly equal to every other person's vote.
 - (C) The Senate, unlike the House, is reapportioned every 20 years.
 - (D) States that have no major increase or decrease in population do not draw new district lines every ten years.