

U.S. SENATE

ESCAPE ROOM

A. 22
B. 36
C. 50
D. 78

6 Senators must have lived in the United States for how many years?

A. 3
B. 5
C. 7
D. 9

How many times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to solve the 4-digit code and record it on your answer sheet.

2310 2211
J N

Residence Act MINUS 1781.

The FIRST number of the lock is the number of members the Senate has at any given time today MINUS 92.

The THIRD number of the lock is the number of houses Congress is composed of MINUS 2.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO
K P

nine years 5 100 7 435
6 two-year 8 twelve year
9 six-year

The number of senators is always the same, though it hasn't always been that way. The first Senate, in 1789, only had 22 members. Today, there are ____ senators at any given time in the Senate. All states have ____ senators regardless of population or geographic size. The senators represent the interests of their own state in the Senate. There are requirements to be a senator listed in the Constitution. A senator must be 30 years old, must have been a citizen for at least the last ____, and must be a legal resident of the state that they are representing. Senators serve a ____ term. The senator can serve as many terms as they like because there is no term limit, as long as they are re-elected. Every two years, an election for senators is held. In this election, only one-third of the senators will be voted on. This means that the elections are staggered for the Senate.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO
B M

STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all. Use the directions below to reveal the 4-digit code and letter clue.

A The senators represent the interests of their own state in the Senate.

B When the Vice President is not breaking a tie, the President Pro Tempore is the President of the Senate.

C Today, the Senate meets in the Capitol Building in Washington D.C.

D In 1957, Strom Thurmond spoke against the Civil Rights Act. He was the only senator to attempt that lasted for 24 hours and was eventually removed from the Senate.

STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values to reveal your letter clue. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

A 75 E 100 F

A. Both houses of Congress must approve laws in order for them to go into effect.

B. Congress is part of the Judicial Branch.

C. The main job of the Legislative Branch is to interpret the laws.

D. The role of the U.S. Senate is to approve or reject laws.

THE SENATE

The U.S. Senate is a part of the Legislative Branch of the (national) government. The Senate and House of Representatives make up Congress. The Senate is bicameral which means that it is divided into two parts. The Senate also has a unique role to make sure that the House of Representatives is not becoming unreasonably powerful. The Senate's role is outlined in the United States Constitution. The word "senator" comes from the Latin word "senator" which means senators elected were Roman senators.

THINK TANK

STATIONS ACTIVITY

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ 5 STATIONS
- ✓ TEACHER GUIDE
- ✓ ANSWER KEY
- ✓ STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- ✓ TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ✓ PROP SIGNS

STATION 1: FILL IN THE BLANK

Use your reading passage to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code for this station will be the NUMBER for each missing word, in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph. Then, record the clue LETTER on your answer sheet.

STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all. Follow the directions below to reveal the 4-digit code and letter clue.

STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values to reveal your letter clue. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

STATION 4: COMBINATION

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock for this station. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order. There is room on your answer sheet to do the math.

STATION 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE

Answer each multiple-choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4-digit code. Letters may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, put a zero in that box on your answer sheet.

ANSWER RECORDING SHEET

Record your answers for each station on this sheet. Then, use the directions below to determine final 4-digit ALPHA code. Ex: HBDR

STATION CODES

LETTER CLUE

STATION 1	→	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	CODE	<input type="text"/>
-----------	---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	------	----------------------

A	B	C	D	E	F	<input type="text"/>
---	---	---	---	---	---	----------------------

STATION 2	→	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	CODE	<input type="text"/>
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ENTER

1

2

3

TEACHER DIRECTION

- 1 Print the reading passage found on [pages 5-6](#) for EACH (front and back).
- 2 Print the answer recording sheet on [page 12](#) for each student group of students.

RECAP: Print pages 5, 6, and 12 for students.

STATION

5

BLUE

THE MISSION

You have been assigned a top-secret mission of utmost importance. A notorious thief has stolen precious gems from a prominent lady, and intelligence reports suggest that they are hidden in a heavily guarded secret vault. In the bustling city of Oakville, Lady Victoria was renowned for her extraordinary

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The reading passage in this packet allows students to practice their comprehension skills after reading the passage. Each station includes a question that will reveal a letter clue.

	OVERVIEW
READING PASSAGE	Students will use the reading passage at each station seeking answers and text evidence.
STATION 1	Students will determine the missing word in the paragraph to reveal a 4-digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs in the reading passage to determine where the missing words can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating the incorrect numbers, a 4-digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false.



5 STATIONS

STATION 5: MULTIPLE CHOICE

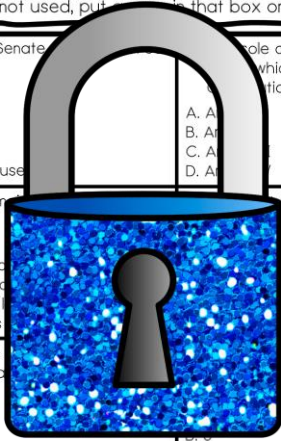
Answer each multiple-choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal the code. Letters may be used more than once or not at all. If an option is not used, put a 0 in that box on your answer sheet.

1. What is the Senate called?
 A. Lower House
 B. Upper House
 C. Law House
 D. Parliament House

2. What is the maximum number of members in the Senate?
 A. Enforce the laws
 B. Vote on new laws
 C. Interpret the laws
 D. Veto the laws

3. What vote is required to override a presidential veto?
 A. One-third
 B. One-half
 C. Two-thirds
 D. Three-fourths

Count how many times you used each letter answer to determine the 4-digit code and record it on your answer sheet.



ANSWER RECORDING SHEET

Record your answers for each station on this sheet. Then, use the directions below to determine final 4-digit ALPHA code. Ex: HBDR

STATION	STATION CODES	LETTER CODE
STATION 1	→ [] [] [] [] []	[]
STATION 2	A B C D E F	[]
STATION 3	→ [] [] [] [] []	[]
STATION 4	→ [] [] [] [] []	[]
STATION 5	→ [] [] [] [] []	[]

Do your math in this area:

→ [] [] [] [] [] []

→ A# [] B# [] C# [] D# []

STATION 4: COMBINATION

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock for this station. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order. There is room on your answer sheet to do the math.

1. The number of times Strom Thurmond filibustered in 1957 was 19.

2. The second number of the year that the Lincoln Memorial was dedicated in Washington DC was 8.

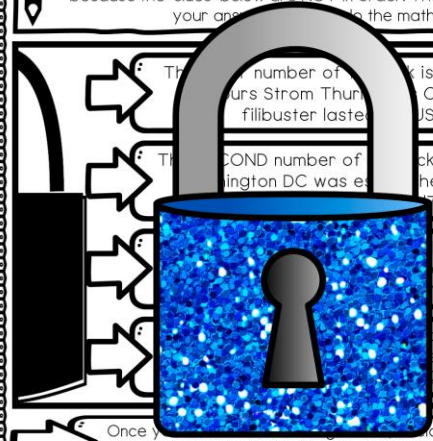
3. The number of times the Senate has passed a filibuster is 92.

4. The number of times the Senate has passed a filibuster is 92.

5. The number of times the Senate has passed a filibuster is 92.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO



STATION 1: FILL IN THE BLANKS

Use your reading passage to determine the missing word in each paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code for this station will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the order in which they appear in the paragraph. The code will be recorded on your answer sheet.

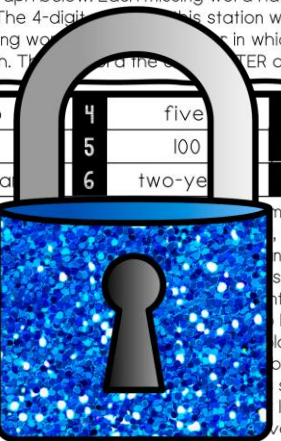
1	two	4	five	7	4
2	238	5	100	8	twelve
3	nine years	6	two-year	9	six-

The number of members in the Senate, though it has always been 100, was reduced to 80 in 1913. The Senate is made up of 100 members. To be a senator, you must be at least 30 years old, have been a citizen for 14 years, and live in the state you represent. The Senate is elected for 6-year terms, with one-third of the members being re-elected every two years. In this election, only one-third of the senators will be voted on. This means that the elections are staggered for the Senate.

Once you determine the 4-digit code, decide if the code uses all EVEN #s, all ODD #s or a combination of both.

ALL EVEN ALL ODD COMBO

B H M



STATION 3: TRUE OR FALSE

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color the coin on YOUR answer sheet that matches that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin. Once you are finished coloring the coins, add up the TRUE coin values to determine the final 4-digit code. One digit of the code will be provided for you.

A 75 B 25 C 50 D 100

A. Both houses of Congress must approve laws before they go into effect.

B. Congress is part of the Executive Branch.

C. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the land.

D. The President is elected for a 4-year term.

E. The Senate is responsible for approving or rejecting the President's appointments.

F. The Senate is responsible for approving or rejecting the President's treaties.

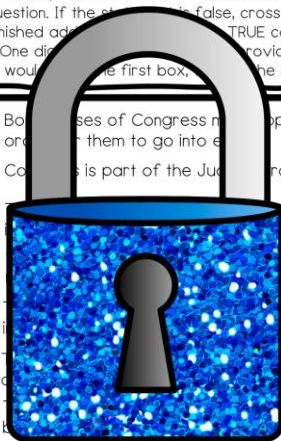
G. The Senate is responsible for approving or rejecting the President's appointments.

H. A senator must be at least 40 years old.

After shading the coins on your answer sheet, add up the values of the TRUE statements to get the final total.

425 375 4

G D



STATION 2: PARAGRAPHS

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than once or not at all. Follow the directions below to determine the 4-digit code and letter clue.

A. The senators represent the interests of their own state in the Senate.

B. When the Vice President is not breaking a tie, the leader of the Senate is the President.

C. Today, the Senate is the largest branch of the federal government.

D. In 1957, Strom Thurmond filibustered for 18 hours and 45 minutes.

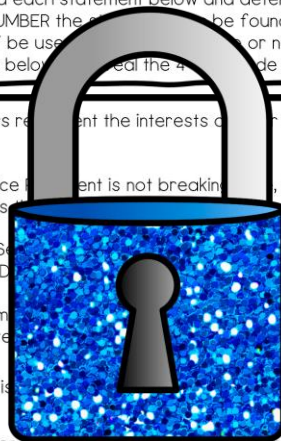
E. The Senate is responsible for approving or rejecting the President's appointments.

F. The word "senator" comes from the Latin word for "old man."

ELIMINATE the highest and lowest used paragraph numbers and record the remaining 4-digit code on your answer sheet. Decide which paragraph number was NOT used as a CODE answer.

NO 4 NO 6 NO 2

L C W



STATIONS

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The reading passage in this packet allows students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence. Each station includes a 4-digit code that will reveal a letter clue.

OVERVIEW

READING PASSAGE	Students will use the reading passage at EACH station seeking answers and text evidence.
STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4-digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating numbers, a 4-digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4-digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "ABCD" answer.
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text, citing evidence of where they found their answers. (This will increase completion time)

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**STUDENTS WILL
USE THE SAME
READING
PASSAGE AT
EACH STATION
SEEKING
ANSWERS AND
TEXT EVIDENCE.**

BENEFITS

- ✓ STATIONS AND MOVEMENT
- ✓ CLOSE READING
- ✓ COMPREHENSION SKILLS
- ✓ SECRET CODES
- ✓ CITING EVIDENCE
- ✓ CRITICAL THINKING
- ✓ PRINT AND GO
- ✓ ACTIVE LEARNING
- ✓ CROSS-CURRICULAR
- ✓ HIGHLY ENGAGING
- ✓ NO LOCKS NEEDED
- ✓ NO SILLY ENVELOPES TO STUFF
- ✓ NO ODD SHAPES TO CUT OUT



Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!

USE FOR:



ANTICIPATORY SETS



UNIT REVIEW



EARLY FINISHERS



STATIONS



REWARD ACTIVITY



CENTERS



SUB PLANS



PARTNER WORK



ENRICHMENT

