

ABOUT THIS PACKET

Each reading passage in this packet allows students to work on comprehension skills after reading the passage several times searching for evidence.

OVERVIEW

THE CASE

Read the case aloud to your students so they understand the mission.

QUESTIONS

There are 18 questions to be answered by reading the passage and marking the text evidence.

CLUES

After answering each question, the students will **mark off** their answer choice on their answer sheet. After all questions have been answered, the suspect, evidence, and location will be revealed.

GRADE LEVEL

RANGE

4

BEGINNING

4

MIDDLE

5

BEGINNING

5

MIDDLE

5

END

6

BEGINNING

6

MIDDLE

6

END

7

BEGINNING

THE SENATE

The U.S. Senate is a part of the Legislative Branch of the federal national government. The main job of the Legislative Branch is to make laws. The Senate and House of Representatives make up Congress. Congress is bicameral which means that it is divided into two houses. Each house has a unique role to make sure that the Legislative Branch fulfills its duties. It is over divided to prevent any one section of the Legislative Branch from becoming unreasonably powerful. The structure and role of the U.S. Senate is outlined in the United States Constitution in Article I. The Senate is often referred to as the "upper" house.

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 100 senators at any given time in the Senate. All states have two 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 U.S. citizen for at least the last nine years, and must be a legal resident of the state that they are representing. Senators serve a six-year term. The senator can serve any number of 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.

The head of the Senate is the Vice President of the United States. However, the Vice President's only job in the Senate is to break a tie, should there be a split decision. When the Vice President is not breaking a tie, the leader of the Senate is the President Pro Tempore. There are also other leadership roles in the Senate. The majority leader will be elected by senators of the largest political party, such as Democratic or Republican.

3

The strategy of prolonging a bill is called a



Creature



Legislation



Filibuster



Veto

4

Who breaks a tie in the Senate?



Vice President



Pro Tempore



Majority Leader



Minority Leader

5

What word means divided into two houses?



Upper House



Cloture



Filibuster



Bicameral

6

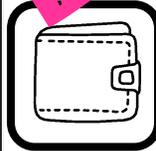
What word means to approve?



Legislate



Ratify



Override



Redempt

7

What is the main
job of the
Legislative Branch?



Execute laws



Interpret laws



Enforce laws



Make laws

8

How many senators
does each state
have?



Based on
population



Based on size



10



2

9

What is another
word for legislation?



Treaties



Laws



Powers



Checks

10

The Senate is often
referred to as the
_____ "house."



Lower



Upper



Stranger



Wester

CASE FILE

Cross out the images you use as an answer. What remains will solve the case!

SUSPECTS



LOCATION



EVIDENCE



CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

MORE RESOURCES

Click on each icon!

