Study Guide for Chapter 11 = Congress

You are also responsible for knowing all of the key terms from the chapter.

Key Questions:
1. What is the most “attractive” thing about serving in Congress? What unattractive parts of the job do most Americans not see? (Explain.)
2. What are the qualifications to serve in the House of Rep's? the Senate?
3. Describe a “typical” member of Congress in terms of: sex, race, age, religion, prior occupation, and wealth.
4. What is the difference between descriptive and substantive representation?
5. List and explain five advantages incumbents have over their opponents in congressional elections.
6. What is the difference between casework and pork barrel?
7. List and explain three ways that an incumbent might be defeated.
8. What are the “pros” and “cons” of term limits?
9. What are the main functions of the House Rules Committee?
10. The Senate has a unique procedure called the “filibuster.” What is it? How can a filibuster be stopped?
11. List four formal powers of the Speaker of the House.
12. List the leadership positions that exist in the House & Senate.
13. List the four types of congressional committees.
14. What is meant by legislative oversight?
15. How does the seniority system work?
16. What is a Congressional “caucus”? What purpose do they serve?
17. What is the difference between the personal staff and the committee staff?
18. List three congressional staff agencies.
19. Draw a diagram of how a bill becomes a law.
20. What is the difference between trustees, instructed delegates, and politicos?
21. In what ways do lobbyists try to influence the decision-making process?
22. What are some of the ways that Congress is very “unrepresentative”?
23. How does the structure of Congress contribute to the expanding scope of government?

~ The End ~