

## Congress: The Legislative Branch Guided Reading Activity

Chapter 5 - pages 137-142

Section 3

### READING THE SECTION

Read each sentence and fill in the blank with the correct word or phrase.

1. According to the Constitution, every 10 years the House of Representatives must undergo \_\_\_\_\_, or a redistribution of seats among the states based on census results. **(reapportionment/gerrymandering)**
2. The most powerful member and the presiding officer of the House is the \_\_\_\_\_ . **(floor leader/Speaker of the House)**
3. Within the House, each party elects a \_\_\_\_\_, whose job is to encourage party members to vote the way that the party leadership wants. **(floor leader/whip)**
4. The House has 20 \_\_\_\_\_, or permanent committees, which address the major areas of legislation such as agriculture, the budget, and the armed services. **(standing committees/select committees)**
5. Sometimes the House and Senate form \_\_\_\_\_ to address issues that affect both chambers of Congress. **(select committees/joint committees)**

### POST-READING QUICK CHECK

In the space provided, write the vocabulary term that best matches each description.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Proposed laws.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. House committee created to carry out a specific task not covered by an existing committee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Process of drawing district boundaries for political advantage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Meeting of all the House members from a particular political party.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Party member elected to help manage the actions and strategy of the party in the House.