

**Lesson 20: *The Senate I***

(Lesson Time 37:13)

[for Sunday, May 17, 2015]

Reading: The Making of America, pages 289-306

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***Chapter 12: The Senate I***

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Pre-lesson questions for homework study and review: [*Supplemental* notes are bracketed]  
[287 Constitution Provisions “principles” in text.]

Lesson 20: The Senate I

1. DESCRIBE AT LEAST TWO ASPECTS OF THE U.S. SENATE THAT MADE IT A TOTALLY NEW POLITICAL INVENTION. (PAGES 290-92)

The Senate I

“Upper Chamber”

o Other countries:

- lifetime
- hereditary
- church
- wealthy

o In U.S. - “unique”

Provision 26

Two Senators from each state

o Many envisioned a Senate elected by the people

o Small states had no voice

o *Roger Sherman* proposed “Great Compromise” [3 times– saved convention!]

- Small States protected
- Cooled legislation from House [ill– saucer/tea cup– ‘to cool it’]

2. HOW DID THE FOUNDERS FEEL ABOUT RECALL ELECTIONS? (292-93)

o Rejected recall of Senators

- would encourage faction and intrigue

3. THE FOUNDERS STATED SEVERAL REASONS FOR GIVING THE STATE LEGISLATURES THE RIGHT TO APPOINT ALL U.S. SENATORS. NAME AS MANY OF THESE REASONS AS YOU CAN. (293-301)

Provision 27

Senators appointed by State Legislators

o People are not aware of state’s needs

o Senators to be experienced statesmen

- represent state’s rights
- is link between states and federal

o Senators to prevent intrigue between Washington and the people.

4. WHY DID THE FOUNDERS SETTLE ON SIX-YEAR TERMS FOR SENATORS? (301-4)

Provision 28

Term of Senator is 6 Years

- o Assures independence
- o Nature of business demands longer term
  - deal with foreign countries, treaties
- o Guardian against redistribution of wealth and preserving the established order (quote)

5. HOW DID THE FOUNDERS FEEL ABOUT PLACING CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATIONS ON THE TERMS OF SENATORS OR REPRESENTATIVES? (304-6)

Provision 29

No term limits for Congress

- o Limiting the terms of elected officials:
  - deprives people of the right to have represent them whom they will
  - lessen sense of enthusiastic service
  - cause to lose interest in their work
  - may rob nations of finest leaders in time of crisis

6. COMPARE THE METHOD FOR VOTING IN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS (BEFORE THE CONSTITUTION) WITH THE METHOD ESTABLISHED BY THE CONSTITUTION. WHICH DO YOU PREFER, AND WHY? (306)

Provision 30

Each Senator to have one vote

- o When state has one vote who is accountable?

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**Quiz - Lesson 20**

1. THE UPPER CHAMBER IN OTHER COUNTRIES USUALLY IS FILLED WITH WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE? \_\_\_\_\_.
2. THE SENATE IS COMPOSED OF \_\_\_\_ SENATORS FROM EACH STATE?
3. THE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE SENATE TO PACIFY THE SMALL STATES WAS KNOWN AS THE "\_\_\_\_\_ COMPROMISE".
4. WHAT TEMPTATION WOULD MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE YIELD TO WITH RESPECT TO FEDERAL MONEY THAT THE SENATE WOULD PROBABLY RESIST? \_\_\_\_\_.
5. WHY DID THE FOUNDERS REJECT A RECALL PROVISION FOR SENATORS? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. SENATORS ORIGINALLY WERE CHOSEN BY \_\_\_\_\_ THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR A SENATOR IS \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS.
7. WHY DID THE FOUNDERS FEEL A LONGER TERM WAS NECESSARY FOR A SENATOR THAN FOR A REPRESENTATIVE? \_\_\_\_\_.
8. THE FOUNDERS ENVISIONED THE SENATE TO BE A GUARDIAN AGAINST WHAT GROUP OF PEOPLE? \_\_\_\_\_.
9. GIVE A REASON THE FOUNDERS REJECTED TERM LIMITS. \_\_\_\_\_.
10. GIVE ANOTHER REASON THE FOUNDERS REJECTED TERM LIMITS. \_\_\_\_\_.
11. HOW DID THE FOUNDERS MAKE EACH SENATOR RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OWN RECORD AS A SENATOR? \_\_\_\_\_.

