

Lesson 21: *The Senate II*

(Lesson Time 28:52)

[for Sunday, May 24, 2015]

Reading: *The Making of America*, pages 307-318

Chapter 12: The Senate II

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

1. WHAT ADVANTAGES DID THE FOUNDERS SEE IN ROTATING PART OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE U.S. SENATE EVERY TWO YEARS? (PAGES 307-8)

Provision 31

One-third of the Senate elected every two years

[allowed correction of the senate every 2 years rather than 6 yrs. 2/3 majority would allow for 1 senator to block entire law]

2. HOW IS A VACANCY IN THE SENATE FILLED? (308)

Provision 32

If a seat is vacated, Governor appoints.

- o Special election may be called

3. WHAT ARE THE THREE QUALIFICATIONS TO BECOME A U. S. SENATOR? (309-11)

Provision 33

Senators must be 30 years old [A Representative requirement: 25, President, 35]

- o Added responsibility

- o Needs mature judgment

Provision 34

Citizen of US for 9 years [A Representative requirement: 7, President, 14]

- o Power to make treaties – must have no foreign attachments

- o Franklin questioned but agreed

Provision 35

Must be an inhabitant.

4. DESCRIBE THE VICE PRESIDENT'S UNIQUE ROLE IN THE SENATE. (311-12)

Provision 36

Vice-President to preside over the Senate

- o Only officer in both executive and legislative branches

 - not a senator

 - cannot debate

 - cannot vote unless a tie. [Provision 37: 200 times]

- o Not much to do (quote) [18 times]

Provision 37

VP cannot vote unless a tie

- o Voted in about 200 cases

- o Office used as a vote-getter for the President

5. LIST THE OFFICERS OF THE U.S. SENATE AND THEIR DUTIES. (313-14)

Provision 38

Senate chooses own officers [compares identically with House]

- o President pro-tempore (usually presides)

- o Committee Chairman

- o Floor leaders

- o Party whips

- o Secretary

- o Sargent at Arms

- o Chaplain

- o Parliamentarian

- o Pages

Provision 39

If VP not present, President Pro Tempore presides

6. WHY DID THE FOUNDERS FEEL THAT THE SENATE IS THE PREFERRED BODY FOR TRYING IMPEACHMENT CASES?

Provision 40

The Senate to try Impeachment Cases.

- o More stable

- o More trust than in Supreme Court because SC was too few in number

- o SC judges appointed by the President

Provision 41

Senators take oath before Impeachment Trial

- o A sacred responsibility

WHO PRESIDES IN SUCH A TRIAL?

Provision 42

Chief Justice presides at Impeachment of President

- o VP [becomes President!] has vested interest in outcome!

Provision 43

Convicted by 2/3 in attendance

- o Must have a quorum (half plus 1)

- o Minimum would be 34 (2/3 of 51)

- o Maximum minimum would be 67 (2/3 of 100)

Provision 44

Only remove from office and prohibit holding any future office.

- o Prevented a bill of attainder [legislative body passing a law and putting a person in jail]

CAN A PERSON BE TRIED IN A CIVIL OR CRIMINAL COURT AFTER AN IMPEACHMENT HEARING?

(314-18)

Provision 45

May afterwards be tried in court

- o Civil or Criminal Court

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Quiz - Lesson 21

1. WHEN THE SENATE FIRST CONVENED, IT WAS DIVIDED INTO ____ CLASSES SO THAT ____ OF THE SENATE WOULD BE ELECTED EVERY ____ YEARS.
2. HOW IS A VACANCY IN THE SENATE FILLED? _____
3. A SENATOR MUST BE AT LEAST ____ YEARS OLD.
4. A SENATOR MUST BE A CITIZEN AT LEAST ____ YEARS AND AN INHABITANT OF THE _____ HE REPRESENTS.
5. THE VICE PRESIDENT SERVES AS _____ OF THE SENATE. HE DOES NOT TAKE PART IN ANY _____ AND HE CANNOT _____ UNLESS THERE IS A _____
6. WHO GENERALLY LEADS THE SENATE? _____

NAME TWO OTHER OFFICERS OF THE SENATE.

7. WHO HAS EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY TO TRY IMPEACHMENT CASES?

8. WHO PRESIDES AT AN IMPEACHMENT TRIAL OF THE PRESIDENT?

9. HOW MANY SENATORS DOES IT TAKE TO CONVICT SOMEONE IN AN IMPEACHMENT COURT? _____
10. NAME THE TWO THINGS AN IMPEACHMENT TRIAL CAN DO TO A PERSON.

11. WHAT MAY STILL HAPPEN TO SOMEONE WHO IS CONVICTED AND REMOVED FROM OFFICE BY AN IMPEACHMENT COURT? _____