

# Guided Reading Activity

networks

## Congressional Powers

### Lesson 1 *Constitutional Powers*

#### Review Questions

**Directions:** Read the lesson and complete the outline below. Refer to your text to fill in the blanks.

#### I. Constitutional Provisions

- A. The Constitution gives Congress stated, or \_\_\_\_\_ powers.
- B. The implied powers of Congress come from the so-called elastic clause, which gives Congress the power to do whatever is " \_\_\_\_\_ " to carry out its other powers.

#### II. Legislative Powers

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Congress include taxing, spending, and regulating foreign and interstate commerce.
- B. The Constitution states that laws for raising money, called \_\_\_\_\_, must start in the House of Representatives.
- C. There is a two-step process for laws that approve the spending of money: first an \_\_\_\_\_ establishes a program and its financial limits, and then an \_\_\_\_\_ funds the program.
- D. The power of Congress also includes the power to \_\_\_\_\_ money, most often by selling government \_\_\_\_\_ or notes, and to coin money.
- E. Through the years, the power of Congress to regulate \_\_\_\_\_ has expanded far beyond the mere buying and selling of goods and services.

**Guided Reading Activity** *cont.***networks****Congressional Powers**

- F. The lengthy and costly U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War led Congress to pass the \_\_\_\_\_ Act in 1973, which requires a president to tell Congress about any decision to send troops to other countries.
- G. Congressional powers also include naturalization, admitting new states, governing territories and federal property, granting \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and the establishment of a post office and federal courts.

**III. Nonlegislative Powers**

- A. Most \_\_\_\_\_ functions require \_\_\_\_\_ between the houses, but each house usually plays a distinct role in exercising these powers.
- B. Removal of any federal official begins by \_\_\_\_\_, or formal accusation, in the House of Representatives followed by a trial in the \_\_\_\_\_ presided over by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the United States, with removal from office if two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict.
- C. The Senate must approve presidential \_\_\_\_\_ to office and must also \_\_\_\_\_ formal treaties with other nations.
- D. Congress shares with state legislatures the power to propose \_\_\_\_\_ to the Constitution.

**Summary and Reflection**

**Directions:** Summarize the main ideas of this lesson by answering the question below.

How has the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce changed over time?

---

---

---

---