Chapter 11 Congress Pt. I (pgs. 287-300)

I. Introduction (Summarize the main points in a good paragraph)

II. Congress as a Career: Election to Congress (Summarize the main points in a good paragraph)

 A. Define **Incumbents**

B. *Critical Thinking*: Why did politicians in the 18th and 19th centuries often prefer to serve in state government instead of Congress? Explain.

C. Define **Constituency**

D. Define **Pork Barrel Spending**

E. Define **Service Strategy**

F. *Critical Thinking*: Why would some people criticize pork barrel spending as wasteful? Explain.

G. *Critical Thinking*: Why would a qualified challenger have a hard time fundraising a Congressional incumbent? Explain.

H. Define **Open Seat Election**

I. Define **Reapportionment**

J. Define **Redistricting**

K. Define **Gerrymandering**

L. *Critical Thinking*: Why is the redistricting process so controversial? Explain.

III. Pitfalls of Incumbency (Summarize the main points in a good paragraph)

A. *Critical Thinking*: How could serving in Congress tempt someone to engage in a scandal? Explain.

B. Define **Mid-term election**

C. *Critical Thinking*: Why would some people vote in Presidential election years and not in mid-term elections? Explain.

D. *Critical Thinking*: What strategy could a member of Congress use to avoid a strong primary challenge? Explain.

E. *Critical Thinking*: Why is it an advantage in many cases to have a wealthy individual run for a Senate seat? Explain.

F. *Critical Thinking*: Do you think more women and minorities will win seats in Congress in the future? Explain.

IV. Parties and Party Leadership (Summarize the main points in a good paragraph)

A. Define **Party Leaders**

B. Define **Party Caucus**

C. Define **Party Unity**

D. *Critical Thinking*: How would the increase in party unity impact how laws are created? Explain.

E. *Critical Thinking*: What challenges would someone face as the Speaker of the House? Explain.

F. *Critical Thinking*: Why would Senate leadership be weaker than House leadership? Explain.

Quiz

Write two good multiple choice questions (not definitions) based on your reading in this section. Be sure to mark your correct answer.