**Directions:** You will use lesson 21 & 22 in the book (back shelf) to answer the following questions. Elaborate and know this material because end of class Thursday/beginning of Tuesday we will be doing a scored discussion where you will be specifically called on to show me your knowledge! You may use this worksheet during the scored discussion. Please be familiar with terms and concepts from both lessons regarding CONGRESS :)

**Key terms and Concepts:**

cloture enforcement powers

filibuster federalism

impeachment gerrymandering

lobbying implied powers

pocket veto inherent powers

power to investigate

resolution

**The Role of Congress in a Constitutional Democracy- Lesson 21**

Congress is often called America's first branch of government because of its lawmaking powers and its control over the nation’s purse. More than any other branch of the national government, it is the people’s branch. members of Congress are directly accountable to those who elect them.

1. Explain the differences between Congress and the British Parliament and how Congress reflects America’s commitment to representative government and federalism
2. Identify several constitutional sources of Congressional power
3. Describe some of the challenges that members of Congress face in representing and serving their constituents
4. Evaluate, take, and defend positions on contemporary issues about Congressional representation and organization.

**How Congress performs its functions in the American Constitutional System- Lesson 22**

The United States Congress is one of the few national assemblies in the world with the power to initiate legislation rather than simply vote on a bills proposed by the executive. Congress also conducts important investigations that can lead to changes in public policy and even the removal of federal judges and the president. From its earliest days, Congress has relied on rules and leadership structures to facilitate its work. Today, with 535 members, Congress faces a variety of organizational challenges in its effort to represent growing and diverse constituencies.

1. describe the role of rules, committees, and political parties in the organization and operation of Congress
2. Describe the process through which proposed legislation becomes law.
3. Identify the primary sources on which members of Congress rely for information in the lawmaking process and to explain the importance of Congress’s inherent power to investigate
4. Explain why compromise is required in the deliberative process
5. Evaluate, take and defend positions on how Congress functions and whether it should streamline its procedures.