

HMDC Elementary Model Congress Class (Fall 2024)

September 7, 2024 to December 14, 2024 (14 Sessions)

Model Congress Quiz (Week 11)

Section 1: Understanding Political Parties

- [Multiple] What best describes a political party?
a) A celebration with decorations b) A group sharing similar ideas about government
c) A committee in Congress d) A type of election
- [True/False] Political parties can change their ideas over time. True False
- [Fill-in] The two main political parties in the United States are the _____ Party and the _____ Party.

Important Information About Political Parties:

Democratic Party:	Republican Party:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supports more government programs to help people• Focuses on environmental protection• Advocates for expanded healthcare access• Supports stronger business regulations• Values social programs and education funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supports limited government involvement• Focuses on lower taxes• Advocates for state/local government control• Supports fewer regulations on businesses• Values free market solutions

Your Choice: Based on the above descriptions, which party do you choose to join?

I choose the _____ Party because: (Write a few sentences explaining your choice)

HMDC Elementary Model Congress Class (Fall 2024)

September 7, 2024 to December 14, 2024 (14 Sessions)

Section 2: Congressional Committees

4. [Multiple] What is the main purpose of a congressional committee?
 - a) To plan parties for Congress
 - b) To focus on specific types of problems and bills
 - c) To count votes in Congress
 - d) To write all laws by themselves

5. [True/False] You can only join one committee at a time. True False

Committee Choices (Read each description carefully):

1. **Agriculture Committee:** This committee oversees farming, ranching, and forest management across America, including food safety inspections and nutrition programs like school lunches. It helps develop policies that support farmers while ensuring our nation has a safe and reliable food supply.
2. **Education and the Workforce Committee:** This committee handles all aspects of education from preschool through college, including student loans and school safety. It also oversees workplace issues like job training, worker safety rules, and minimum wage laws to protect American workers.
3. **Energy and Commerce Committee:** This committee manages our nation's energy supply, healthcare systems, and interstate commerce. It works on making energy affordable, overseeing public health programs, protecting consumers, and regulating business practices across state lines.
4. **Financial Services Committee:** This committee oversees banks, insurance companies, and housing programs that help Americans buy homes. It works to keep our financial system stable while protecting consumers from unfair practices and helping communities access affordable housing.
5. **Natural Resources Committee:** This committee protects America's public lands, national parks, and natural resources. It develops policies for conservation, manages mining and fishing rights, and works to preserve our environment for future generations.
6. **Science, Space, and Technology Committee:** This committee supports scientific research and innovation across all fields including space exploration, clean energy, and new technologies. It oversees research programs that keep America competitive in science and technology worldwide.
7. **Small Business Committee:** This committee helps America's small businesses succeed by creating programs that provide loans, training, and resources to business owners. It works to ensure small companies can compete fairly and get the support they need to grow.
8. **Transportation and Infrastructure Committee:** This committee oversees America's highways, railways, airports, waterways, and public transit systems. It manages projects to build and repair bridges, maintain roads, and improve how people and goods move around our country.
9. **Ways and Means Committee:** This committee handles taxes, Social Security, Medicare, and programs that help Americans in need. It works on policies that affect family income, healthcare access, and retirement benefits for millions of people.
10. **Oversight and Accountability Committee:** This committee investigates how government programs are working and makes sure taxpayer money is being spent wisely. It helps improve government services and ensures programs are operating efficiently and fairly.
11. **Armed Services Committee:** This committee oversees our military forces, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Space Force. It works to ensure our troops have the training and equipment they need while managing military bases and defense programs across the country.
12. **Foreign Affairs Committee:** This committee shapes how America works with other countries around the world. It oversees diplomatic relations, international aid programs, and trade agreements while helping to promote democracy and human rights globally.

HMDC Elementary Model Congress Class (Fall 2024)

September 7, 2024 to December 14, 2024 (14 Sessions)

Section 2: Congressional Committees (Continued...)

Your Committee Choice: Which committee would you like to join?

I choose the _____ Committee because: (Write a few sentences explaining you choice)

Section 3: Writing Your Bill

Follow this template to write a bill. (Hint: You can use the Solar Panel Bill to help guide you).

TITLE: A BILL TO _____
(Example: "A BILL TO REQUIRE SOLAR PANELS ON GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS")

PURPOSE: (Write 1-2 sentences explaining what your bill will do)

SECTION 1: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- Current problem (Include facts if you know them):

- Who is affected by this problem:

HMDC Elementary Model Congress Class (Fall 2024)

September 7, 2024 to December 14, 2024 (14 Sessions)

SECTION 1: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION (Continued...)

- Why we need to fix this now:

SECTION 2: PROPOSED CHANGES The Federal Government shall:

A. Main actions required (List at least 2):

- _____
- _____
- _____

B. Exceptions allowed for (Optional - List any exceptions):

- _____
- _____
- _____

SECTION 3: IMPLEMENTATION

A. Which government agency will be in charge? What will they do?

B. Who else needs to help? What will they do?

HMDC Elementary Model Congress Class (Fall 2024)

September 7, 2024 to December 14, 2024 (14 Sessions)

SECTION 4: FUNDING (Optional but recommended)

A. How much money is needed?

Total estimated cost: \$ _____ over _____ years

What will the money be used for?

- \$ _____ for _____
- \$ _____ for _____
- \$ _____ for _____

B. Where will the money come from?

- _____
- _____
- _____

SECTION 5: EXPECTED BENEFITS

What benefits (good things) will result if your bill becomes law? List at least three:

- _____
- _____
- _____

SECTION 6: EFFECTIVE DATE This act shall take effect on:

Submitted by: Representative _____

State/District: _____

Committee: _____