COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT NAME

CHAPTER 10 PER

Section 1:

1. In “historical” terms why do we have a bicameral legislature (Congress)? Practical? Theoretical?
2. What is the difference between a term and a session of Congress? How many sessions make up each term? What term of Congress is currently running?
3. Who can call Congress into a special session? Why would one be called?

Section 2:

1. True/False Voters in the District of Columbia, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American

Samoa each elect a delegate to represent them in the House who are able to vote on bills.

1. Why did Congress change how seats in the House are apportioned in 1929?
2. Which party typically gains seats in off-year elections?
3. After 1842 all seats in the House were to be filled from single-member districts. Why did Congress do away with the general ticket system (“at-large”)?
4. What is gerrymandering? What is kidnapping?
5. What Supreme Court decision established the concept of “one man – one vote” for the House of Representatives?

Section 3:

1. Why is the Senate said to be a continuous body?
2. Which house of Congress is designed to be most responsive to public opinion?
3. How does a senator’s constituency differ from that of a typical member of the House?

Section 4:

1. Members of both houses of Congress play five major roles. List them.
2. a. If a member of Congress votes as he/she sees fit and simply lets their constituents decide at

election time if they should remain in office, they are being a .

b. If a member of Congress votes as his/her party leaders want them to vote, they are being a

 .

c. If a member of Congress keeps in touch with the wishes of their constituents and votes in line

with the constituents’ views, they are being a .

d. If a member of Congress tries to balance the above roles and acts on what seems best at the

time, they are being a .

1. If a member of Congress helps a constituent solve a problem with the federal bureaucracy,

he/she is being a .

Why would do they respond to these requests?