**Mr. Carpenter**

**AP Government**

**I. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Discuss the 2004 congressional elections. Who were the big winners and losers?

Why did the Senate minority leader loose his seat? Did President Bush have "coattails"?

2. Assess the factors that go into redistricting, reapportionment, and gerrymandering, as well as their impact on House elections. How can the 2003 redistricting of Texas be an example of all three?

3. Describe the professional qualifications and profile the typical member of Congress.

4. Explain the importance of bicameralism.

5. Define enumerated powers. List some of enumerated powers given to Congress.

6. List differences between the House of Representatives and the Senate.

7. Identify and define the basic functions of Congress.

8. Identify the major leadership positions in the House and Senate.

9. Examine the political environment in the Senate. Explain why some consider the job of U.S. senator to be more prestigious.

10. Indicate the role of unlimited debate and the filibuster in Senate proceedings.

11. Explain the role of and procedures used in the Senate confirmation powers.

12. Distinguish between Congress as a law‑making institution and as a representative assembly.

13. Distinguish between the delegate and trustee roles of legislators.

14. Identify the various types of congressional committees.

15. Analyze the types of pressures and influences a member of Congress is subject to in the decision‑making or law‑making role.

16. Evaluate the impact and power of congressional staff.

17. Trace the pathway of a bill through both houses of Congress.

18. Analyze the importance of committee and subcommittee chairs and the process by which they are chosen, especially the impact of seniority.

19. Explain why so many congressional incumbents win.

20. Describe the job of the legislator.

21. Explain how the congressional impeachment process works.

22. List and define four types of representation.

23. Outline the steps involved in a bill becoming a law.

24. Suggest ways that Congress could become more efficient and effective.

25. In early 2005, Republicans had a majority in both houses of Congress. How

was this majority and control of the White House used?