

Constitutional Powers of the Legislative Branch

Directions: Use the Constitution – Article I and other sources complete the following tables.

Powers Denied Congress

(section of Constitution)	(term)	(explanation)
Article I Section 9 Clause 2	Suspending writ habeas corpus	
	ex post facto laws	
Article I Section 9 Clause 6		Prohibits Congress from favoring one state or region over another in the regulation of trade.
	Bills of Attainder	
		Prevents the establishment of nobility in the United States

Non-Legislative Powers

Choosing a President	
Impeachment/Removal Power	
Confirmation Power	
Ratification Power	
Amendment Power	

Legislative Powers

Article, Section, Clause	EXPRESSED POWER
MONEY POWERS	
Article I Section 8 Clause 1	
	The federal government borrows money by issuing bonds
	Determines laws and procedures for determining bankruptcies
Article I Section 8 Clause 5	
	Provides for the punishment of counterfeiting U.S. currency

MILITARY AND FOREIGN POWERS	
Article I Section 8 Clause 10	
	Congress has the authority to declare war
Article I Section 8 Clause 12	
Article I Section 8 Clause 13	
	Congress creates rules and laws that regulate the Armed Forces.
Article I Section 8 Clause 15 & 16	
OTHER LEGISLATIVE POWERS	
Article I Section 8 Clause 4	
	Establishes federally run postal service
Article I Section 8 Clause 8	
	Congress creates lower federal courts
Article I Section 8 Clause 17	
	the “necessary and proper” or “elastic” clause

- 1) Explain the differences between Revenue Bills and Appropriation Bills. How has the Congress used the powers to pass the bills to increase their authority?
- 2) What types of bills can only originate in the House of Representatives? What is the reasoning behind this?
- 3) How does the United States borrow money?
- 4) Explain the following as they pertain to the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce:
 - a) Gibbons v. Ogden
 - b) Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States