

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

GUIDED READING

South Carolina: **Our History, Our Home**

Chapter 2: The Government of South Carolina

Section 1 South Carolina Government Today

Directions: Use the information from pages 41 - 52 to complete the following.

1. The chief function of the _____ in the Legislative Branch of the government is to make _____.
2. Also it is the only state-level body that can levy taxes, fees, and fines to raise _____ (operating funds for the government) and can _____ the spending of that money.
3. To be elected to the House of _____ [a part of the General Assembly], one only has to be _____ years of age.
4. _____ [a part of the General Assembly] have to be _____ years of age.
5. The House has _____ member from each of the 124 districts across the state; the member represents for a _____-year term.
6. A senator is elected from 1 of 46 districts and _____ about 100,552 people for a _____-year term.
7. Both houses [in the General Assembly] do most of their work in _____.
8. _____ are chosen for committees largely on the basis of their choice, _____ (length of service), and political party.
9. The Senate also elects a _____ (president for the time being), usually the leader of the majority [political] party.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

10. The House of Representatives elects a _____, the leader of the majority party in that chamber.
11. When a legislator submits a _____ for consideration for it to become a law it may take as many as _____ steps before it can become a law. (See Figure 3)
12. If both houses vote to accept the bill it goes to the _____ for his signature and a new law has been made.
13. The General Assembly elects most of the _____ in the state and it appoints hundreds of persons to boards and _____.
14. One of the key duties of the General Assembly is to follow up on the acts it has _____ to make sure state agencies are carrying out the intent of the law and _____ money properly.
15. The _____ role in the Executive Branch is to carry out the _____ passed by the General Assembly, to maintain _____, and to be the _____ for the state.
16. If for any reason the governor cannot perform the duties of office, the _____ becomes the governor.
17. The governor's formal powers include him/her being able to submit an executive _____ every year for consideration.
18. Another example of a formal power that has increased the governor's influence is in the area of _____ management.
19. The governor also has the formal power of _____ over acts passed by the General Assembly.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

20. The least well-known of the three " _____" branches of our state government is the _____ branch.
21. The _____ Courts (the lowest level of county courts) handle over half of all the cases in the state.
22. A person accused of a serious _____ will be brought before a magistrate for a _____ hearing. The magistrate will decide whether there is _____ (a reasonable expectation that evidence will be found) to justify sending the accused before a grand _____, which will determine whether the person should go to _____.
23. _____ Courts are courts established by town and cities. Municipal judges deal with cases similar to the Magistrate Courts, except they do not try _____ cases.
24. _____ Courts are courts that deal primarily with _____ and estates.
25. _____ Courts deal with _____, child _____, visitation rights, alimony, property settlements, and termination of _____ rights.
26. The _____ Court hears both _____ and civil cases.
27. The South Carolina Court of _____ does not try cases but hears _____ from the decisions of the Circuit and Family Courts.
28. The _____ Court is the _____ appeals court in the state.