**American Government**

**Ch. 12 Sec. 1**

1. When does Congress come together?
2. Why is opening day very important in the House of Representatives?
3. What happens in the Senate on opening day?
4. The speech in which the President describes the condition of the country and the administration’s policies is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Speaker of the House | President of the Senate |
| How chosen? |  |  |
| Member of that body?(yes or no) |  |  |
| Able to debate?(yes or no) |  |  |
| Able to vote? (yes or no) |  |  |

1. Who has more actual legislative power – Speaker of the House or President of the Senate? Explain
2. Who is the President pro tempore? How is that person chosen?
3. Describe the powers of committee chairman?
4. Which member of South Dakota’s congressional delegation is a committee chairman? Which committee? (You will not find this answer in the textbook.)
5. What is the seniority rule?

**Ch. 12 Sec. 2**

**Standing Committee**

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| 1. Definition of “standing committee”
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| 1. Number of standing committees in the House
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| 1. Number of standing committees in the Senate
 |  |
| 1. Standing committees are important because . . .
 |  |
| 1. Members of committees are chosen based on . . .
 |  |
| 1. Four standing committees are . . .
 |  |

1. What is the role of the following types of committees?

Subcommittee –

Joint committee –

Conference committee –