**American Government**

**Membership of the 113th Congress**

1. What is the breakdown of Democrats and Republicans in the House of Representatives?

 In the Senate?

1. What is the current average age of U.S. Representatives?

Senators?

1. How old must Representatives be?

Senators?

1. What are the most common previous professions of members of Congress?
2. How many Senators have previously served in the U.S. House of Representatives?
3. How many members of Congress have previously served as mayors?

State governors?

Lieutenant governors?

 State legislators?

1. What do the numbers from the previous question tell you about members of Congress, especially the Senate?
2. What generalization can you make about the education level of the current members of Congress?
3. What has happened to the education level of members of Congress through the past 50 years?
4. In your opinion, is a high level of formal education necessary to be a good member of Congress? Why or why not?
5. What has happened to the years of experience held by members of Congress?

What might be a reason for that?

1. What stands out to you about religion and members of Congress?
2. Is religious affiliation important to being a member of Congress? Why or why not?
3. Are most women in Congress Democrats or Republicans?
4. Most of the ethnic minorities in Congress belong to which political party?
5. What has happened to the number of military veterans in Congress during the past 40 years?