

Part II- Majority and Supermajority

The Constitution requires a simple majority for some actions and a supermajority for others. A simple majority means more than half, while supermajority requirements can involve a 2/3 majority or a ¾ majority. Most elections in the United States require a plurality, or the most votes, but not necessarily a majority.

1. a. What bodies have the power to override a presidential veto? **Both House and Senate**
b. What margin is required to override a presidential veto? **2/3**
c. Where in the Constitution is the veto power described? **Article 1, Section 7**
2. a. What body has the power to ratify treaties? **Senate**
b. What margin is required to ratify treaties? **2/3**
c. Where in the Constitution is the ratification power described? **Article II, Sec. 2**
3. To impeach means to bring charges against or to indict.
a. What body has the power to impeach? **House**
b. Where in the Constitution is the impeachment power described? **Art I, Sec. 2, Cl #5**
4. a. What body has the power to convict the president of charges brought against him in the impeachment process and thereby remove him from the presidency? **Senate**
b. What margin is required to convict and remove a president? **2/3**
c. Where in the Constitution is impeachment described? **Art. 1, Sec. 3, Clause #6**
5. a. What body has the power to accept or reject a president's nomination to the Supreme Court? **Senate**
b. What margin is required to elevate a president's nominee to the Court? **Majority**
c. Where in the Constitution is the judicial nomination process described? **Art II, Sec. 2**
6. a. If no candidate for the presidency wins a simple majority of the total number of electoral votes, what body has the power to choose the president? **House**
b. What margin is required to choose the president? **Majority**
c. Where in the Constitution is the Electoral College described (2 parts)? **Art II, Sec. 1 and 12th**

Amendment

7. The Constitution specifies a three-fourths majority for just one process. What? **Ratification of an Amendment**

8. See Article VI. Explain the Supremacy Clause in your own words. _____

9. What are two ways that amendments can be proposed? _____

10. What are two ways that amendments can be ratified? _____