Article I of the United States Constitution outlines the powers of the legislative branch of the government (Congress), and Article II outlines the powers of the executive branch (the Presidency). Each of the cartoons below refers to the constitutional powers of the branches, or their relationship to the people and each other.

DIRECTIONS:
Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.
Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution.
Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.
WORKSHEET 3

Congress is the Elected, Representative Branch of Government

Article I of the United States Constitution establishes the House of Representatives and the Senate as distinct representative bodies with balanced responsibilities and the power to act together to create legislation. Each of the 435 House members represents a district while each of the 100 Senators represents a whole state.

DIRECTIONS:

Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.
Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution.
Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.

Capture
WORKSHEET 4
Congress Makes Laws for the Nation

The legislative process in Congress is complex, but it allows every member of the House or Senate to introduce bills. A bill usually advances first to a committee which researches, debates, and amends the bill before reporting a successful bill to the full body for debate, further amending, and votes. Only a small fraction of bills introduced in any Congress become law. The process of lawmaking incorporates many points of view on any topic being considered.

DIRECTIONS:
Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.
Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution.
Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.

Caption

Caption

Write your caption here:
The Founders separated the legislative and executive power into two different branches of government and created balances between them. Article I of the Constitution outlines the powers of Congress, and Article II outlines those of the President. In most cases, the powers described in the two articles are complementary and result in shared authority. As these cartoons by Clifford K. Berryman suggest, effective governing often requires compromises between the two branches.

DIRECTIONS:
Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.
Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution. Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.

Write your caption here:
Political parties play a crucial role in shaping how Congress works. The House of Representatives is controlled by the party holding the majority of seats. The Senate has a more complicated structure wherein the majority party sets the schedule, but the minority party can exercise great influence of the pace of events and can prevent many issues from coming to a vote.

DIRECTIONS:

Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.
Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution.
Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.
 Each Member of the House and each Senator represents a group of voters, makes laws for the nation, and participates in fulfilling specific constitutional duties of the House or Senate. House Members represent, and are accountable to, the voters of one of the 435 districts spread across the 50 states, while Senators represent a whole state. Each election represents an opportunity for voters to evaluate the work of their Representative or Senator.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Place each caption card in the space below the cartoon it best matches.

Discuss the cartoons and captions to formulate a hypothesis on what these cartoons say about Congress and the Constitution. Select one cartoon that best matches today’s politics and write a caption that ties it to a contemporary issue.