**Unit 4: The US Congress (SHJ)**

**Using your textbook, answer the following questions:**

**If you prefer to just make notes, then use the pages shown here to make notes from.**

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| 1. Outline the statistical make up of Congress in **2013** – women and minorities | **183-187** |
| **Extension:** *Using the link below, investigate the composition of the 114th Congress - http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/01/12/114th-congress-is-most-diverse-ever/* | |
| 1. List the powers of Congress with ONE example for each in these categories: HoR powers, Senate Powers, Join Powers   e.g. Joint power – Legislation – Affordable Healthcare Act | **187-189** |
| 1. List the powers of the Speaker of the House, the minority and majority leaders and committee chairs | **191-193, 198** |
| **Extension**: *Make a diagram of the current leadership in the House and the Senate for the 114th Congress* | |
| 1. For each of these committees, outline their role and give one example:  * Standing * Select * House Rules * Conference | **194-198** |
| 1. Make a brief flow chart outlining the name and a BRIEF description of each stage of the legislative process | **199-206** |
| **Extension**: In addition to making laws, what other actions can Congress take? http://www.house.gov/content/learn/legislative\_process/ | |
| 1. For each of the six reasons that influence how a Congressman votes, give a BRIEF description and one specific example | **210-216** |
| 1. Make a table showing examples of how Congress has been effective and ineffective at scrutinising the executive branch | **219-222** |
| **Extension:** Google ‘Congress and Benghazi’ and outline what the special congressional committee investigating the 2012 attack actually decided. | |