

For this activity, click [here](#). You can also access the site by pasting this URL into a new tab.
[https://ballotpedia.org/United States House of Representatives](https://ballotpedia.org/United_States_House_of_Representatives)

Section 1

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| Choose one of the 50 states. | California |
| What is the population of the state? | 38,993,940 |
| How many Representatives do they have? | 52 |
| Choose a second state. If your first state is big, try a small state or vice versa. | |
| Your second state. | Alaska |
| What is the population of the state? | 737,709 |
| How many Representatives do they have? | 1 |
| What difference do you notice in population size and the number of representatives this state has? Answer in 1-2 complete sentences and be sure to name both states in your analysis. | |
| As we can see California has a bigger population than Alaska so this affects to the number of representatives. But what I also see is that isn't fair that Alaska with a population of 737,709 people has only one representative. | |
| Why do different states have different numbers of Representatives? Compare this with what you know about the Senate, which has 2 senators for each state? Answer in 1-2 complete sentences. | |
| I consider that the Senate and the House of Representatives have different roles with which different ways of electing who are going to represent them that is why the House of Representatives is based on how large or small the population is and the Senate is not based in that | |

Section 2

Now, go to [this site](#). You also may paste this URL into a new tab:

<http://parlouisiana.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Reapportionment-and-Redistricting-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences.

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| How does reapportionment happen? |
| This happens every 10 years, there is when they count how many people live in each state, so this is why they U.S seats can change every 10 years. |
| If the last census was taken in 2020, when will the next census occur? |
| According to what the law says every census is taken every 10 years so the next one will be on 2030. |
| What may happen if a state's population increases? What may happen if it decreases? |
| If a population increases the number of U.S seats of this state will be bigger. However, if it decreases the opposite thing will happen. |

Section 3

Answer in 1-2 complete sentences.

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| Why is the apportionment process important? |
| I consider that it is important since it distributes with equity who should represent each state and that affects different fields. For example; If you are a candidate for elections and you were clear about |

persuading a specific area because it had more inhabitants and in this process you may lose them, it is something important to know

Section 4

Now, go to [this site](#). You also may paste this URL into a new tab:

http://content.newsbound.com/public/redistrict/redistrict_us/ Read **slides 10-17** to answer these questions. Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences.

Who redraws the lines?

A select group of state legislators in all the state but in 13 are the ones that take the role to make this.

What happens if legislators can't agree on the new lines?

Well, if this happens the one who obtains the responsibility in this case is the courts or a backup commission of some sort.

Section 5

Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences.

Explain 2 ways that officials can gerrymander a district.

One way is to crack a district into two different ones, so in the elections there isn't only one district which is going to vote for you, they are two. The other way is to put away from the border lines the senator house so he cannot vote, and the democrats will win.

What effects do gerrymandering methods have on the opposing party?

Well they have bad effects because what this gerrymandering makes is that if the party's objective is to win the elections with this unfair redistribution it will win so it negatively affects the other party.

Section 6

Answer in 1-2 complete sentences.

Should gerrymandering be allowed? Why or why not?

I think that all the things that aren't fair, that aren't allowed or written in a law cannot be allowed because they will only benefit a certain party and this is not impartial.

Section 7

Go to [this site](#) to see the answers to a few frequently asked questions about gerrymandering. You may also paste this URL into a new tab: <https://apnews.com/54499d87807a4460a2c5ef4fb08d8c36>. Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences.

Scroll down to the question "*Is political gerrymandering illegal?*" (It's question #6.) Read this section and answer this question: Why isn't it illegal?

It isn't illegal because in any page of the constitution there is a law which says that it is forbidden for a party to use this type of technique to win elections.

Then scroll down two more questions to, "*Does this spell the end of all partisan gerrymandering lawsuits?*" Read this section and answer this question: Can someone still sue if they think their state's map has been drawn unfairly? Explain.

Yes, as we can read in the responses on this website, a trial can be held in the event that a state believes that this annulment violates the constitution itself.

Section 8

Answer each question in 1-2 complete sentences.

What are 2 possible solutions to gerrymandering?

I think that the most powerful solution could be to make it illegal in the constition, and if you violate the law you can have serious problems. But another solution is to make speeches to raise awareness and to say that this isn't fair in a 100%.

Will these solutions solve the problem? Why or why not?

I think that the first one yes, but the politics are sometimes greedy so they might be not in favour of this law, so the second solution cannot solve the problem at all because if you are a stubborn person you are not going to listen to the other side.

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