

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

*Getting In, Staying In, and Being In Congress*  
Perspectives on Life as a Member of Congress

**Directions:** Each of the supplemental readings for this assignment provides excellent insight on the experience of being in Congress. Read each of them closely and provide detailed written responses to the questions on a separate sheet of paper. Staple this sheet to the front of your work before turning it in.

David Mayhew, *Congress: The Electoral Connection*

1. Identify the author's thesis.
2. How does the author specifically define advertising?
3. Explain why are incumbents better known and the examples the author uses to illustrate this point?
4. How does the author specifically define credit claiming?
5. How does the author describe "particularized benefits" or "casework"?
6. How does the author specifically define position taking? Identify three examples of this activity by Members of Congress.
7. How do Members advertise their positions taken?

Richard Fenno, *Home Style*

1. Identify the author's thesis.
2. Explain how politicians apply Goffman's idea of the "presentation of self" in the responses they seek from constituents.
3. How does the author describe the function of trust in the representative-constituent relationship?
4. Explain what the author means by the statement, "Presentation of self enhances trust; enhancing trust takes time; therefore, presentation of self takes time...."
5. Explain how the delegate role and trustee role persist side by side.
6. Explain what the author means by the statement, "Presentation of self enhances trust; trust enhances the acceptability of explanations; the acceptability of explanations enhances voting leeway; therefore, presentation of self enhances voting leeway...."

David Price, *The Congressional Experience*

1. Review Price's schedule as he suggests. What sort of survival techniques or rules of thumb did he institute to mitigate his hectic schedule?
2. Explain Price's distaste for Congress-bashing. In other words, what are the serious implications for running "for Congress by running *against* Congress"?
3. How has new technology and pressing "hot-button" cultural and social issues contributed to the gap between campaigning and governing?
4. How does negative campaigning or attack politics contribute to the decline of the "politics of remedy"?