

Date: _____

Day: _____

Q1. Why American Senate is more powerful than the House of Representatives.

Introduction:-

The United States follows a bicameral legislative system comprising of two chambers.

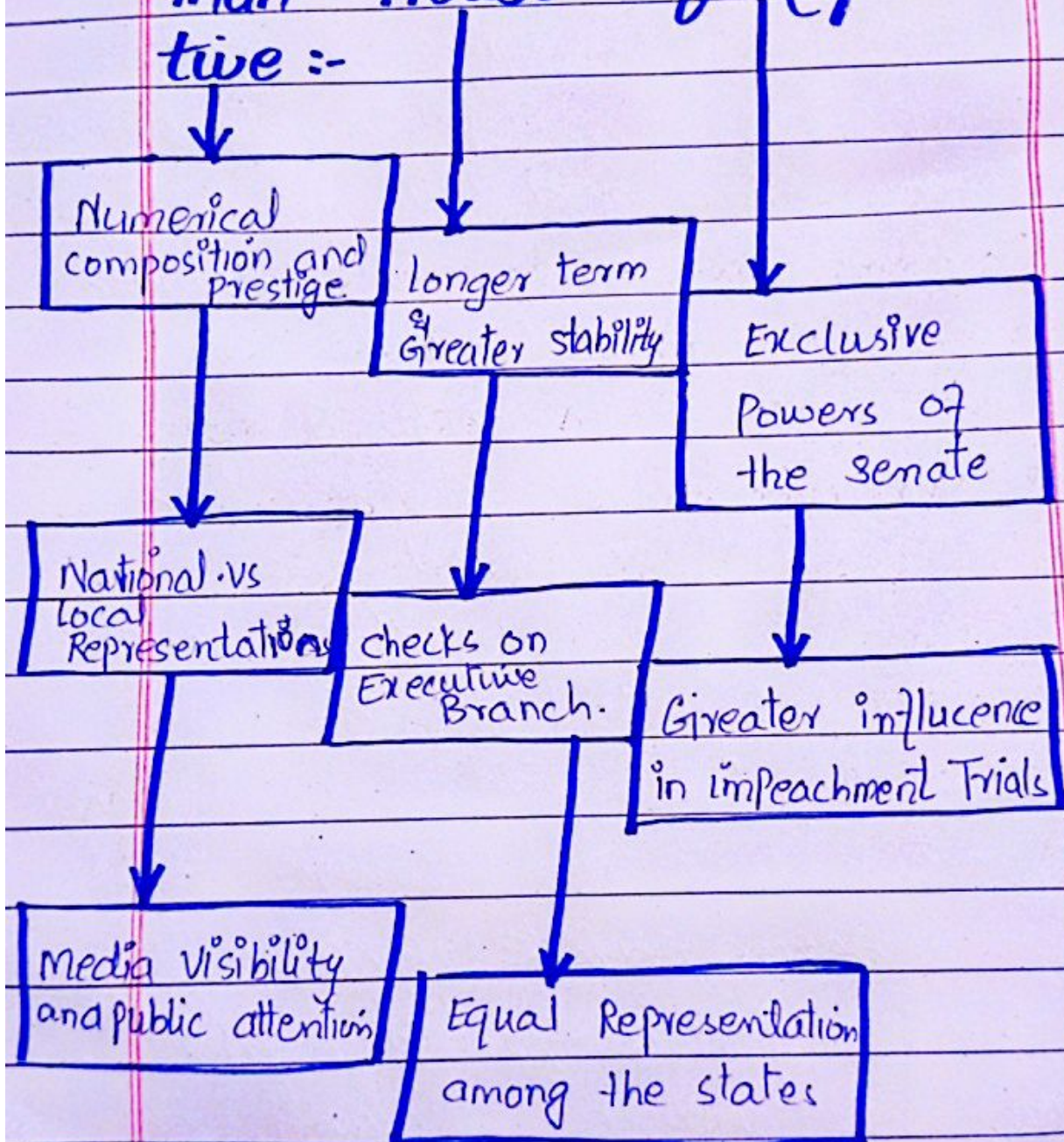
- the senate and House of Representatives. Each chamber play a crucial role in law making and governance.

But the senate chamber is often perceived as more powerful than House of representative. This is due to its wider constitutional function, longer tenure of members, and greater influence in foreign and defence policy along with executive oversight. However, critical examination is also necessary to assess

each chamber checks and

the true extent of this power imbalance.

Reasons For Why Senate Is More Powerful than House of Representative :-



① Numerical Composition And prestige:~

Though Senate has 100 members (2 member from each 50 states). Each Senator represent the entire state. They often making their voice carry more weight than House of Representative. For example: California has over 50 House members But only 2 Senators. Those 2 senators hold equal voting power with the smaller states.

② Longer term And Greater Stability:~

The Senate's tenure is 6 years compared to the tenure of House of Representative which is 2 years. Such longer term provides continuity, policy consistency, and freedom from re-election.

Date: _____

Day: _____

worries and electoral pressure. For example senators can focus on long-term foreign and defense policy without short-term re-election worries.

③ Exclusive Powers of the Senate:~

Senate has the power to approve international treaties and confirm all the appointments of the president (Judges, Ambassadors, and cabinet etc). These are the exclusive power that House of Representative lacks.

For example. The Senate blocked the treaty of Versailles in 1919, demonstrating its diplomatic clouts.

④ Greater influence in Impeachment Trials:~

... checks and

Date: _____

Day: _____

Though House of Representative initiate the impeachment process but Senate has the power to conduct a trial and remove the accused from the office with a two-thirds vote. This process again illustrates the final authority of the Senate as compare to the House of representative.

© National Vs Local Representation :-

Senators represent state-wide interests while House of Representatives often defends on local or district level and their concerns, limiting their broader appeal. For example, Senate debates address national or international issues while House of representative addresses local or district-level concerns.

Date: _____

Day: _____

limiting their
consisting budget allocations
and local grievances.

(f) Equal Representation Among States:

In the Senate → every state - regardless of size - has equal weight. This balance of power gives smaller states disproportionate influence.

For example: Wyoming and California have the same number of senators despite vast population difference.

(g) Media Visibility And public Attention:-

Senators often attract more media and public attention due to their broader constituency and high-profile roles.

Date: _____

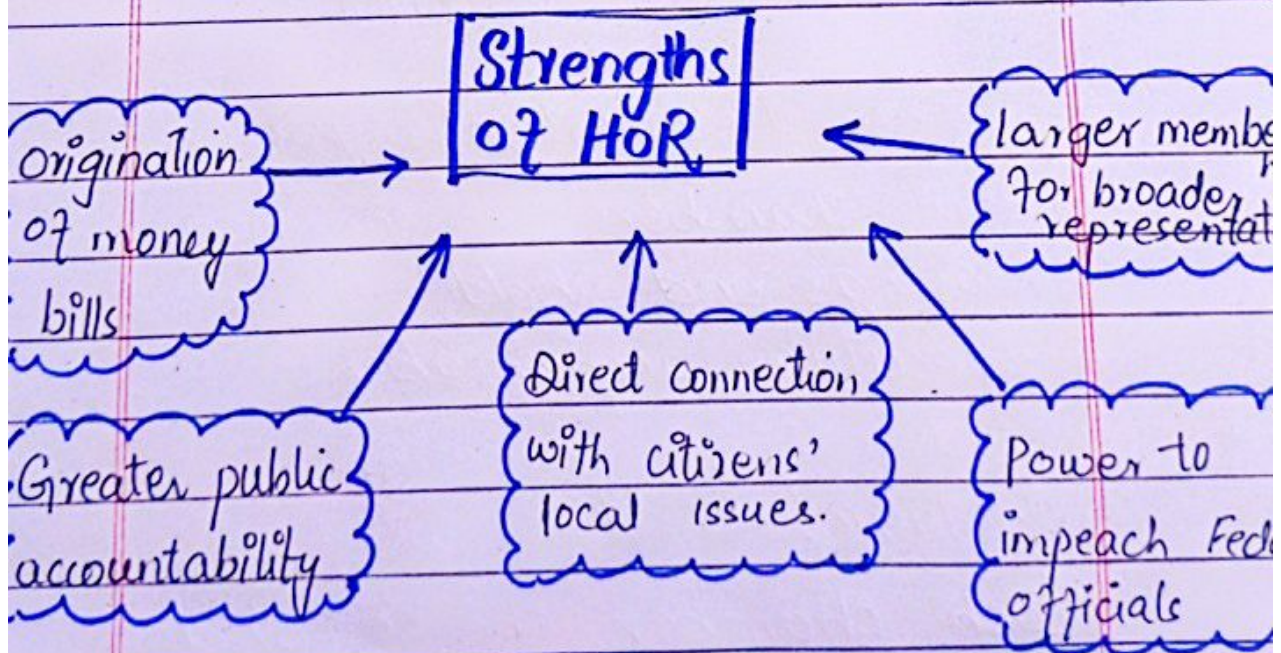
Day: _____

For example: Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren dominate policy debates beyond their states.

(h) Check on Executive Branch:~

Senate acts as a check on executive branch through confirmation, oversight hearings and treaty ratification.

For example: The Senate Judiciary plays a vital role in confirming U.S. Supreme Court Justices.



Date: _____

Day: _____

(i) Institutional Balance (No Absolute Supremacy)

① Bicameral legislative process:

No law passes without the approval of both Senate and House.

② Equal Role in constitutional Amendments

Both must approve amendments with $2/3$ majority.

③ Conference committees:

Resolve differences between House and Senate versions of bills

④ Shared investigative powers:

Both chambers can summon hearings and hold the executive accountable.

⑤ Mutual checks:

Each chamber checks and

Date: _____

Day: _____

balances the other's legislative power.

Conclusion:~

In critically examining the US congress, it is evident that the Senate is institutionally more powerful than House of Representatives - through its authority over executive appointments, treaty ratification, longer terms, and legislative influence. However, the House plays an essential democratic and financial role. Their power is asymmetrical yet complementary - together shaping the backbone of American democracy.