AP & US Government

Congressional Elections & Gerrymandering Discussion Board Posts

**Thread 1: Redistricting Game**

Go to the Redistricting Game: <http://www.redistrictinggame.org>. Instructions for playing the simulation are on the web site. Select the party affiliation of your choice.

* 1. Complete Mission 1—Fundamentals (basic level)
  2. Complete Mission 2—Partisan Gerrymander (basic level)
  3. Complete Mission 2—Partisan Gerrymander (advanced level)

Take a screen shot of your **map** as well as the **“submit for approval”** screen (with all green checks) to document that the legislature and governor have approved your plan and that the courts have cleared it.

Paste your screenshots into your discussion board post and answer the following questions in one, cohesive paragraph. How long did it take you to “win” the game? What were at least three major challenges you faced in playing the game? Explain each one using your understanding of gerrymandering, representation and political structure. Consider the effects: In what ways does redistricting assist or hinder the election process?

**Thread 2: Gerrymandering**

In your own words, how does the concept of gerrymandering affect US elections? What are possible alternatives to tasking state legislatures with drawing the lines? Find at least one alternative done elsewhere and explain it. Do you think the US should change? (200 words)

In addition to your initial post, comment on the post of at least one other classmate.

**Thread 3: Congressional Term Limits**

Since the ratification of the Constitution in 1788, members of Congress, both representatives and senators, have not been subject to term limits.  Do you think the Constitution should be amended to put limits on the number of terms one can serve?  Why or why not?  (150 words)

In addition to your initial response, comment on the post of at least one other classmate.  As always, you may not repeat something that has already been said.  Be creative!  This site may help...  <http://www.debate.org/opinions/should-congress-have-term-limits>.