

Name: _____

Lab: Appropriation Adventure MAKEUP ASSIGNMENT

Remember: As per GHHS Policy, you have two days for each day absent to makeup assignments.

What We Did in Class:

Students worked in teams of eight with each student taking on the role of a senator or a lobbyist. Debating within those roles, students balanced the U.S. Federal Budget to eliminate the deficit. It is not possible for you to make up this roleplay activity, so you will learn similar information by watching a video then balancing the budget yourself.

Your Assignment:

Watch the video <https://tinyurl.com/y267h95r> and answer the following

1. What is an Interest Group and how do they influence the “iron triangle”?
2. Where does the term lobbyist come from?
3. Identify two of the interest groups described in the video.
4. What is money from interest groups spent on?
5. Describe positive things that interest groups might do.
6. Describe negative things that interest groups might do.
7. How do you think interest groups might influence the federal budget?

(continued on back)

Balance the Budget! Total Receipts must equal Total Spending!

<u>Simplified 2017 U.S. Federal Budget</u>	2017		YOUR PROPOSED	
Receipts	\$ (in billions)		\$ (in billions)	% change
Individual Income Taxes	1,570			
Social Security & Payroll Tax (employer withheld taxes)	1,000			
Corporate Income Taxes	368			
Excise Taxes (sin taxes)	97			
Customs Duties (foreign transactions)	37			
Estate & Gift Taxes	22			
Deposits of Earnings (federal reserve bank earnings)	30			
Other Taxes & Earnings	86			
Total Receipts	\$3,210			
Spending	\$ (in billions)		\$ (in billions)	% change
Social Security	1,330		1,330	0.00%
Medicare, Medicaid	1,030		1,030	0.00%
National Defense & Homeland Security	583			
Net Debt Interest	266		266	0.00%
Veterans Benefits & Services	159			
Agriculture	133			
Treasury (IRS, mint)	100			
Transportation	88			
Education	69			
Administration of Justice (prisons, borders, FBI)	56			
Labor & Housing (unemployment, public affairs, planning)	45			
Natural Resources (NOAA, FWS, corp of engineers)	38			
International Affairs	37			
General Science, Space & Technology	28			
Energy	27			
Total Spending	\$3,989			

primary sources: InsideGov & Government Publishing Office

Budget amounts that are already printed into the "Your Proposed" column are called mandatory spending, because that spending is written into law and is unable to be changed in appropriation acts.

Analysis Questions:

8. Discuss the difficulties you had in achieving a balanced budget.
9. Why do you think the U.S. Federal Government does not have balanced budget every year?
10. What effects (if any) does an unbalanced budget have on the economic prosperity of the United States?
11. What have you learned from this makeup lab?