

## Guided Notes Graphic Organizer: Apportionment & Related Terms

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### 1. Apportionment

- **Definition:** The process of distributing political representation (like seats in the House of Representatives) among states based on population.
  - **Key Idea:** Ensures that each state has a fair number of representatives relative to its population.
  - **Example:** After each census, the number of House seats is adjusted to reflect population changes.
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### 2. Reapportionment

- **Definition:** The process of redistributing seats in the House of Representatives after each U.S. Census, every 10 years.
  - **Key Idea:** Ensures each state's representation reflects current population data.
  - **Example:** After the 2020 census, some states gained or lost representatives due to population shifts.
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### 3. U.S. Census

- **Definition:** A nationwide population count conducted every 10 years.
  - **Key Idea:** Provides the data needed for apportionment and redistricting.
  - **Purpose:** To accurately represent the U.S. population in Congress and allocate federal funding.
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### 4. Voting Districts

- **Definition:** Geographical areas created for the purpose of electing representatives to legislative bodies.
- **Key Idea:** Voting districts should have roughly equal populations to ensure fair representation.
- **Example:** States divide their population into congressional districts that elect members to the House of Representatives.

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## 5. Gerrymandering

- **Definition:** The manipulation of electoral district boundaries to favor one party or group over another.
- **Key Idea:** Gerrymandering can undermine the principle of fair representation.
- **Example:** A state may draw district lines in a way that concentrates the opposition's voters in one district, thus weakening their influence in others.

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## 6. Midterm Elections

- **Definition:** Elections held every four years, midway through a president's term, where voters choose members of Congress (House of Representatives and sometimes the Senate).
- **Key Idea:** Midterms can alter the balance of power in Congress.
- **Example:** The 2018 midterm elections resulted in the Democratic Party gaining control of the House of Representatives.

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## 7. Baker v. Carr

- **Definition:** A landmark Supreme Court case in 1962 that established the principle of "one person, one vote" in redistricting.
- **Key Idea:** Ensures that districts have roughly equal populations, promoting equal representation in the legislature.
- **Ruling:** The Court ruled that redistricting issues are justiciable, meaning courts can intervene if districts are not fairly drawn.

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This organizer can help you understand the relationship between apportionment, voting districts, and issues like gerrymandering.