**A Day in the Life of Congress**

1. As Congressman Synar rides the tram from his office to the capitol, he talks about going to the Whip Meeting/Message Meeting. What is the function of this meeting?

This is a meeting with just their political party. The party leaders inform the members about the topics for that day, and what message they are going to present to the American People. Just trying to make sure they are united and on the same page.

2. State at least 3 way Congressman Synar's staff assists him in doing his job.

* The research topics and provide him with info on legislation.
* Help organize his busy schedule.
* Answers letters and address concerns of constituents.

3. What happens to a bill at "mark up"?

The bill is studied, investigated, and modified in order to be heard by the committee. This editing makes it more "workable" for the committee, and increases the chances of it making it out to the floor of the House.

4. Why does Synar refer to lobbyists as the "fourth branch" of government?

Because they influence legislation more than anyone. They provide lawmakers with tons of information about issues that helps them make informed decisions. Congressman, even with the help from their staff, could never do all of the work on their own. And all this information is free of charge to the tax payers.

5. What, according to Synar, is the "foundation of democracy"?

Compromise- working behind the scenes to get something done. Nobody agrees on everything. You have to compromise, because getting something is better than having nothing.

6. What does Synar say about the voting age group of 18-28?

They are the largest voting group in the nation, and could elect every office if they wanted. However, they are the most apathetic, and are wasting their potential influence.