

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

AMENDMENT II

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

AMENDMENT III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

AMENDMENT IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

AMENDMENT V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

AMENDMENT VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

AMENDMENT VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

AMENDMENT VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

AMENDMENT IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

AMENDMENT X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Name: _____

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Directions: *Read the following scenarios. Decide which amendment is being violated.*

- _____ 1. Samantha is accused of selling drugs. When she appears before the judge, she asks for a lawyer because she can't afford one herself. The judge denies her access to a lawyer.
- _____ 2. Maya went on a job interview and mentioned that she belonged the Church of Everyday Salvation. She did not get the job because the interviewer didn't like this church. _
- _____ 3. Liz is accused of murder and given a trial. The jury finds her innocent. The prosecutor is unhappy with the verdict, has police arrest her and recharge her with murder.
- _____ 4. Chris lives near a factory that emits thick, black smoke into the air. He holds a meeting at his house to discuss action. The police show up and arrest them.
- _____ 5. Ray bought and registered a shotgun to hunt near his farm in rural Arkansas, but when visiting Ray, the local sheriff arrested him for possessing the gun.
- _____ 6. Charlie is watching a Real Housewives episode one night when the police knock at his door. They accuse him of owning stolen property and force their way into his house.
- _____ 7. Matt is accused of robbing a 7-11. When he appears before the judge, the judge says he will decide the case for himself.
- _____ 8. Christine is arrested for shoplifting a pair of jeans from *Forever 21*. When she is arraigned, the judge sets bail at \$3 million dollars.
- _____ 9. Fort Meade is overflowing with military soldiers. The government orders each family in the city of Alexandria, Virginia to feed and house two soldiers.
- _____ 10. James got in a fight after school yesterday and punched another student. He was arrested and convicted at trial. Instead of jail time, his punishment would be a caning of 100 lashes in the auditorium with the entire school watching.

Wrap Up Question:

Are your rights absolute (meaning do you have them at all times)? Explain why or why not. _____

Name: Answer Key

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Directions: Read each scenario and decide which amendment is being violated (some are used more than once).

- **VI** 1. Samantha is accused of selling drugs. When she appears before the judge, she asks for a lawyer because she can't afford one herself. The judge denies her access to a lawyer.
- **I** 2. Maya went on a job interview and mentioned that she belonged the Church of Everyday Salvation. She did not get the job because the interviewer didn't like this church. _
- **V** 3. Liz is accused of murder and given a trial. The jury finds her innocent. The prosecutor is unhappy with the verdict, has police arrest her and recharge her with murder.
- **I** 4. Chris lives near a factory that emits thick, black smoke into the air. He holds a meeting at his house to discuss action. The police show up and arrest them.
- **II** 5. Ray bought and registered a shotgun to hunt near his farm in rural Arkansas, but when visiting Ray, the local sheriff arrested him for possessing the gun.
- **IV** 6. Charlie is watching a Real Housewives episode one night when the police knock at his door. They accuse him of owning stolen property and force their way into his house.
- **VI** 7. Matt is accused of robbing a 7-11. When he appears before the judge, the judge says he will decide the case for himself.
- **VIII** 8. Christine is arrested for shoplifting a pair of jeans from *Forever 21*. When she is arraigned, the judge sets bail at \$3 million dollars.
- **III** 9. Fort Meade is overflowing with military soldiers. The government orders each family in the city of Alexandria, Virginia to feed and house two soldiers.
- **VIII** 10. James got in a fight after school yesterday and punched another student. He was arrested and convicted at trial. Instead of jail time, his punishment would be a caning of 100 lashes in the auditorium with the entire school watching.

Wrap Up Question:

Are your rights absolute (meaning do you have them at all times)? Explain why or why not. Open to
many possible student answers and opinions provided they support their answer by explaining why they
feel their rights are absolute or not. Some talking points you might want to mention are Executive Order
9066, which moved Japanese-Americans into internment camps during WWII and recent instances over
online privacy as it relates to the 4th Amendment.
