

Station Guide

Station 1

Read the passage below and respond:

The Bill of Rights, also known as the First Ten Amendments, was added to the United States Constitution in 1791 because many people feared that some states might oppose the Constitution without them. People wanted their rights spelled out. Thomas Jefferson expressed his opinion by saying the following: "A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to . . . and what no just government should refuse." They are very important to every individual. Rights like freedom of speech, the right to petition, the right to bear arms or protection from search and seizures are among the best known.

On your graphic organizer, record the main idea of the paragraph.

Record at least two supporting details.

Station 2

First Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer, rewrite this amendment in your own words.

Second Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer, draw a picture or symbol related to this amendment.

Station 3

Third Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer, explain why this amendment is important for all citizens.

Fourth Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer record the main idea of this amendment.

Station 4

Fifth Amendment

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

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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.

On your graphic organizer describe how this amendment protects you today.

Sixth Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer explain the importance of having public trials.

Station 5

Seventh Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer explain the importance of having the right to a trial by jury.

Eighth Amendment

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

On your graphic organizer draw a picture or symbol that relates the main idea of this amendment.

Station 6

Ninth Amendment

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

On your graphic organizer record your opinion about the meaning of this amendment.

Tenth Amendment

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.

On your graphic organizer record possible reasons that this amendment would have been added to the constitution.