

The Bill of Rights (For social studies)

Required Annotations		Student-Created Annotations		Summary / Questions / Reflection	
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Comprehension					Comments
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Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging¹ 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 impartial² 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

¹ Abridge: to remove, take away, or shorten

² Impartial: treating all rivals or disputants equally; fair and just.

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 enumeration³ in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed⁴ to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated⁵ to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Questions

1. What information must be included in warrants according to the fourth amendment?
2. How many rights does the fifth amendment protect? What punctuation mark and key word helps you determine this?
3. What key term in the seventh amendment might mean it was interpreted a little differently when originally written than now?
4. Summarize the tenth amendment.

3 An “enumeration” is a complete, ordered listing of all the items in a collection. The term is commonly used in mathematics and computer science to refer to a listing of all of the elements of a set.

4 Construe: to understand or interpret something in a particular way

5 Delegate: entrust (a task or responsibility) to another person, typically one who is less senior than oneself.