

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Nail the Bill of Rights: A 3rd Grade Civic Challenge

Evidence analysis, scenario evaluation, and amendment application. Prepare to defend individual liberties in this high-stakes constitutional breakdown.

1. Imagine a town passes a law saying no one is allowed to write letters to the Mayor to complain about a broken park bench. Which part of the First Amendment is this law breaking?

Answer: B) The right to petition the government

The right to petition means citizens have the legal right to ask the government to fix problems or make changes without being punished.

2. True or False: The Sixth Amendment ensures that if someone is accused of a crime, the trial cannot be kept a secret and must happen relatively quickly.

Answer: A) True

The Sixth Amendment protects the right to a public and speedy trial so that the government cannot hold someone in jail forever without a fair hearing.

3. The _____ Amendment says that even if a right isn't specifically listed in the Constitution, it still belongs to the people, not the government.

Answer: B) Ninth

The Ninth Amendment is like a safety net; it reminds us that citizens have many rights beyond just the ones the Founding Fathers wrote down.

4. A judge tells a person they must pay 1 million dollars for accidentally breaking a \$10 window. Which amendment protects citizens from this 'excessive' punishment?

Answer: C) The Eighth Amendment

The Eighth Amendment prevents 'excessive fines' and 'cruel and unusual punishment,' ensuring the penalty fits the crime.

5. True or False: According to the Tenth Amendment, if the Constitution doesn't give a specific power to the Federal government, that power belongs to the states or the people.

Answer: A) True

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The Tenth Amendment establishes federalism, meaning the states keep all powers not specifically given to the national government.

6. The Third Amendment was written because the British used to force Colonists to give ____ to soldiers in their private homes.

Answer: D) Housing (quartering)

The Third Amendment prevents the 'quartering' of soldiers, meaning the government cannot force you to let soldiers live in your house during peacetime.

7. A person is on trial and refuses to answer a question that might make them look guilty. Which right are they using?

Answer: A) The right against self-incrimination (5th Amendment)

The Fifth Amendment says you cannot be forced to be a witness against yourself, which is often called 'pleading the fifth.'

8. Unlike a criminal trial for a crime, the ____ Amendment protects the right to a jury trial in 'civil' cases, which involve disagreements between people over money or property.

Answer: C) Seventh

The Seventh Amendment ensures that regular citizens (a jury) decide the outcome of lawsuits between individuals, not just a judge.

9. True or False: A police officer can enter your house and take your private diary whenever they want, even without a reason or a warrant.

Answer: B) False

The Fourth Amendment protects 'the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects' against unreasonable searches.

10. Which of these best describes why the Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution?

Answer: D) To protect individual freedoms from a powerful government

The Bill of Rights was created because many people were afraid the new government would be too strong and wanted a written guarantee of their personal liberties.