

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Who Protects Your Rights? 4th Grade Bill of Rights Quiz

Perfect for a social studies bell ringer, this activity helps students analyze how the first ten amendments apply to their daily lives and local communities.

1. Imagine a group of neighbors wants to hold a peaceful protest in a local park to save a historic tree. Which First Amendment freedom allows them to gather together officially?

Answer: B) The right to assembly

The right to assembly protects the rights of citizens to gather peacefully for a common purpose or to express their ideas.

2. The Bill of Rights was included in the original 1787 Constitution before it was sent to the states for approval.

Answer: B) False

The Bill of Rights was actually added in 1791 as the first ten amendments because many people felt the original document didn't protect individual liberties enough.

3. In a court of law, the Sixth Amendment ensures that a person accused of a crime has the right to a _____ trial by an impartial jury.

Answer: B) Speedy

The Sixth Amendment specifies that trials must be speedy and public so that the government cannot keep someone in jail indefinitely without a trial.

4. The Seventh Amendment allows for a jury trial in 'civil' cases. What is an example of a civil case?

Answer: C) Two people having a disagreement over a business contract

Civil cases involve disagreements between people or businesses, rather than crimes against the state.

5. The Third Amendment says that the government cannot force citizens to keep soldiers in their homes during times of peace.

Answer: A) True

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This amendment was written because the British government used to force American colonists to house and feed British soldiers.

6. The Ninth Amendment states that citizens have _____ rights even if they are not specifically listed in the Constitution.

Answer: D) Other

The Founders knew they couldn't list every possible right, so the Ninth Amendment protects all other natural rights of the people.

7. According to the Tenth Amendment, if a power is not given to the federal government by the Constitution, who does that power belong to?

Answer: C) The states or the people

The Tenth Amendment reinforces federalism by ensuring that states keep all powers not specifically granted to the national government.

8. The Fourth Amendment protects people from 'unreasonable searches and _____,' meaning the police usually need a warrant to search your property.

Answer: A) Seizures

A 'seizure' happens when the government takes control of a person's property; the Fourth Amendment ensures this is done fairly.

9. Under the Fifth Amendment, a person cannot be put on trial twice for the exact same crime.

Answer: A) True

This is known as the protection against 'double jeopardy,' which prevents the government from repeatedly trying to convict a person of the same act.

10. If a judge ordered a very large, unfair fine for a minor parking ticket, which amendment would be used to argue that the punishment is too high?

Answer: B) Eighth Amendment

The Eighth Amendment prohibits 'excessive fines' and cruel or unusual punishments, ensuring consequences fit the crime.