

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Ratify the Right: Ace the 10th Grade Constitutional Challenge

Synthesize complex legal theories and analyze high-stakes judicial applications across 10 rigorous items designed to push your civic reasoning to its limits.

1. Which legal principle, derived from the 14th Amendment's Due Process Clause, suggests that the Bill of Rights applies to state governments and not just the federal level?

Answer: B) Selective Incorporation

Selective incorporation is the constitutional doctrine that ensures states cannot enact laws that take away the constitutional rights of American citizens that are enshrined in the Bill of Rights.

2. The concept of _____ rights, often associated with the Ninth Amendment, suggests that individuals possess protections not explicitly listed in the Constitution's text.

Answer: C) Unenumerated

The Ninth Amendment explicitly states that the listing of certain rights in the Constitution does not mean other rights—unenumerated ones—do not exist and are not retained by the people.

3. True or False: The 'Take Care Clause' in Article II of the Constitution grants the President the authority to ignore specific Bill of Rights protections during a declared national emergency.

Answer: B) False

The 'Take Care Clause' requires the President to ensure laws are faithfully executed; it does not grant the power to suspend or override the Bill of Rights.

4. In the context of the Seventh Amendment, how does the 're-examination clause' function to preserve the balance of power within the judicial system?

Answer: B) It forbids any court from overturning a jury's findings of fact in a civil case.

The Seventh Amendment protects the findings of a jury in civil cases, ensuring that appellate courts only review matters of law, not re-evaluate the facts decided by the jury.

5. The _____ Clause of the Sixth Amendment ensures that a defendant has the right to face and cross-examine the individuals testifying against them.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer: B) Confrontation

The Confrontation Clause provides that 'in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right... to be confronted with the witnesses against him.'

6. True or False: The Third Amendment is considered 'codified' common law intended to prevent the government from using private homes as military barracks during peacetime without consent.

Answer: A) True

The Third Amendment was a direct response to the British Quartering Acts and serves as a fundamental protection of the sanctity of the home against military intrusion.

7. Which constitutional mechanism was designed to mitigate the problem of 'factions' as described by James Madison in Federalist No. 10?

Answer: B) The establishment of a large republic with federalism

Madison argued that a large republic with many competing interests (pluralism) and a federal system would prevent any single faction from gaining total control.

8. The Tenth Amendment is often referred to as the _____ Powers amendment because it reserves all powers not delegated to the federal government to the states or the people.

Answer: B) Reserved

Reserved powers are those that the Constitution does not grant to the federal government and does not, at the same time, deny to the states.

9. How does the 'Necessary and Proper Clause' (Article I, Section 8) interact with the principle of limited government?

Answer: B) It allows Congress to expand its influence into areas related to its expressed powers.

Also known as the Elastic Clause, it grants Congress the power to pass laws needed to carry out its enumerated duties, creating a source of implied powers.

10. True or False: The 'Great Compromise' (Connecticut Compromise) solved the conflict between large and small states by creating a unicameral legislature based only on population.

Answer: B) False

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The Great Compromise created a bicameral legislature: the House based on population and the Senate with equal representation (two per state).