

The Bill of Rights:

Illustrate the Amendments



When the leaders of the newly formed United States finished writing the Constitution, their work wasn't done. The thirteen states had to agree to it. The thirteen states wanted to add a set of amendments describing the rights of all people. Ten rights, called the Bill of Rights, were added to the Constitution in 1791.

Directions: Read the amendments below, and then illustrate them in the boxes provided. Be sure to use the glossary on page 6 to look up the words in bold that may be unfamiliar to you.

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**.

The Bill of Rights: Illustrate the Amendments

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**.

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.

The Bill of Rights: Illustrate the Amendments

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.

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 of naval forces, or in a 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**.

The Bill of Rights: Illustrate the Amendments

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 where 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.

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.

The Bill of Rights: Illustrate the Amendments

Eighth Amendment

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

Ninth Amendment

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

The Bill of Rights: Illustrate the Amendments

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.

Glossary

abridging: limiting

affirmation: establishment as true

ascertained: learned

assemble: gather

capital: potentially relieving the death penalty

common law: a legal case between two civilian parties (not involving the government) that uses a jury trial; also called civil law

compensation: something given as a settlement for injuries

compulsory: required

confronted: openly faced

consent: permission

construed: interpreted

disparage others retained: minimize other rights held

enumeration: process of listing and explaining rights

excessive bail: an amount of money greater than what is required to ensure a person released after arrest will return to stand trial

grievances: complaints about unlawful or unfair actions

indictment: formal accusation

infamous: shameful

infringed: limited beyond established boundaries

jeopardy: danger

petition: formally request

prescribed: outlined

presentment: show or display in court

preserved: protected

prohibiting: forbidding

quartered: lodged

redress: correction

seizures: taking property by legal force

violated: broken (as in a law)

well regulated militia: military body of trained civilians activated in emergencies