

## Amendments Worksheet

### Bill of Rights (#1-10)

The first ten amendments to the Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, were adopted in 1791. This was four years after the original Constitution had been written, and two years after it had been adopted and George Washington had become president. The Bill of Rights guaranteed that the central government would not take away the rights and freedoms of the people.

Decide which one of the ten amendments in the Bill of Rights gave people each of the rights and freedoms in the following list. Fill in the space with the number of the amendment. Some numbers will be used more than once.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the right not to be put on trial twice for the same crime
2. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom of assembly
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to be tried in the state and district where the crime occurred
4. \_\_\_\_\_ no quartering of soldiers in homes without the approval of the owner
5. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom of the press
6. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to have guns
7. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to a public trial
8. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to know the witnesses against oneself
9. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom of speech
10. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to have a lawyer
11. \_\_\_\_\_ the right not to testify against oneself
12. \_\_\_\_\_ the right not to lose life, liberty, or property without due process of law
13. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to be tried soon after being accused of a crime
14. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom of religion
15. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to know the charges on which one is being held
16. \_\_\_\_\_ you have "implied" rights, not specifically listed in the Constitution
17. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to a jury in a civil case
18. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom from unreasonable search and seizure
19. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to be paid for private property taken for public use
20. \_\_\_\_\_ the right to obtain witnesses in one's defense
21. \_\_\_\_\_ freedom to petition the government to correct grievances
22. \_\_\_\_\_ no cruel or unusual punishments
23. \_\_\_\_\_ no excessive bail or fines

### Other Amendments (#11-27)

The Founding Fathers realized that changes or additions would have to be made in the Constitution as conditions and circumstances changed in the United States. Yet considering the number of years that have passed since the Constitutional Convention met in 1787, remarkably few revisions have been made to the original document. This a tribute to the wisdom of the conventional delegates.

Listed below are the amendments that have been adopted since the Bill of Rights were added to the Constitution in 1791. Fill in the space with the number (11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, etc.) of the amendment being described. Do not use the same number more than once.

24. \_\_\_\_\_ A citizen cannot be denied the right to vote because of race, color or previous condition of servitude.  
(This amendment protected the right of black male citizens to vote.)
25. \_\_\_\_\_ No person can be elected president more than twice. No person who has held the office of president for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected president shall be elected to the office of president more than once.

26. \_\_\_\_\_ The vice-president will become president if the president is removed from office or if he dies or resigns. If the president is unable to carry out his powers and duties, the vice-president will assume the powers and duties while serving as acting president.
27. \_\_\_\_\_ Congress has the power to collect income taxes.
28. \_\_\_\_\_ People may not make, sell, or transport intoxicating liquors within the United States.
29. \_\_\_\_\_ The eighteenth amendment is repealed.
30. \_\_\_\_\_ A person cannot be denied their right to vote because they have not paid a poll tax.
31. \_\_\_\_\_ A pay raise to members of Congress does not take effect until after the next election for the House of Representatives.
32. \_\_\_\_\_ A citizen of one state cannot sue another state in federal court.
33. \_\_\_\_\_ The two United States Senators from each state are to be elected by the people of the state.
34. \_\_\_\_\_ Slavery is abolished in the United States.
35. \_\_\_\_\_ All persons born or naturalized in the United States are citizens of the United States and of the state in which they live. This made former slaves citizens. No state can take away rights of citizens of the United States. No state can take away a person's life, liberty, or property without due process of law. All persons are given equal protection of the law.
36. \_\_\_\_\_ Congress must meet at least once every year, with the meeting beginning on January 3. The term of the president and vice-president end on January 20. (Terms previously had ended in March.)
37. \_\_\_\_\_ Citizens of the District of Columbia can vote.
38. \_\_\_\_\_ Members of the Electoral College, called electors, will vote for one person as president and for another as vice-president.
39. \_\_\_\_\_ Qualified citizens eighteen years or older may vote.
40. \_\_\_\_\_ The right to vote cannot be denied on account of sex (this gave women the right to vote).

### **Thought Questions**

1. In your opinion, what are the **five most important rights and freedoms** listed in Bill of Rights (amendments 1-10)? **Do not** just list the amendment number or the title of the amendment.
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which five amendments not included in the Bill of Rights (#11-27) do you consider to be of greatest importance? Give the number of the amendment and a reason for choosing it.
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ amendment: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ amendment: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ amendment: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ amendment: \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ amendment: \_\_\_\_\_