



Bill of Rights Court

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

My level: ☐ Explorer ☐ Investigator ☐ Legend

Mission: Nine cases are waiting in the courtroom. Read each case, decide which amendment protects the person's rights, and explain your ruling.

Big question: What rights does the Bill of Rights protect, and why were they added to the Constitution?

★ Warm-up: Rights radar

Is this a right protected by the Bill of Rights?

Saying your opinion about the government

Getting a free phone

Key vocabulary

Amendment	A change or addition to the Constitution.
Bill of Rights	The first ten amendments.
Warrant	A judge's permission to search or arrest.
Accused	A person charged with a crime.

1 Box 1

Hear the cases

In the simulator: Place every case under the correct amendment.

What did you notice?

2 Box 2

Most cases

Which amendment protected the most cases, and what do its rights have in common?

- ☐ 1st: they are freedoms of expression and belief ☐ 8th: they are all punishments
- ☐ 2nd: they are all about weapons

3 Box 3

Why add it?

Why did many Americans demand a Bill of Rights before accepting the Constitution?

- ☐ They feared a strong national government could take away freedoms ☐ They wanted more taxes
- ☐ They wanted a king

Limits on rights

Freedom of speech protects you from the GOVERNMENT punishing your ideas. Which is still NOT protected?

- ☐ Making a true threat to hurt someone ☐ Criticizing the President ☐ Writing an opinion letter

4 Box 4

Your ruling

Write a ruling for ONE case.

The case

Ruling Start: "I rule that this person's rights are protected by the..."

Reason Start: "This is because..."

5 Box 5

Legend: most important right 🏆 Legend only

Which right in the Bill of Rights is most important to a democracy? Defend your answer.

Exit ticket: answer the big question in your own words

What rights does the Bill of Rights protect, and why were they added to the Constitution?

Completion code:

Shown on the last screen of the simulator.