# Civics EOC Exam Tutorial // The Bill of Rights: Notes

# \*\*\*Remember: the first ten amendments to the Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights.\*\*\*

#### **First Amendment Freedoms**

Religion	Speech	Press	Peaceful Assembly	Petition the Government for Redress of Grievances
Congress cannot establish an "official" religion, or prevent people from freely exercising their right to worship as they see fit	Congress cannot prohibit free speech (note: a private organization, such as Facebook, can prohibit speech in their domain)	Congress cannot censor the press (newspapers, television, movies, etc.)	The people can come together for any peaceful purpose (includes peaceful protest)	The people can ask the government to fix a problem without fear of reprisal

### **Rights of the Accused & Convicted**

Fourth Amendment	Fifth Amendment	Sixth Amendment	Eighth Amendment
No unreasonable search and seizure Warrants are required for government officials to search and seize your property (in most cases) Probable cause (a good reason) must be established for a judge to approve a warrant	A grand jury must indict a person for a serious crime (a felony) Forbids double-jeopardy: being tried twice for the same crime if you are found innocent the first time No self-incrimination Guarantees due process of law (fair procedures) before a person's "life, liberty, or property" are taken	Criminal defendants have the right to a speedy, fair, public trial Criminal defendants have the right to a trial with a jury of their peers Criminal defendants have the right to be informed of the crime they are accused of committing, and to confront the witnesses against them in court Criminal defendants have the right to an attorney	Forbids cruel and unusual punishments Also forbids excessive bail and excessive fines <i>The punishment must fit</i> <i>the crime</i>

#### **Other Important Protections**

Second	Third	Seventh	Ninth	Tenth
Amendment	Amendment	Amendment	Amendment	Amendment
Right to bear arms	Troops cannot be quartered in your house without your consent	Common law (non- criminal, civil law) suits must be tried in front of a jury if the amount exceeds \$20	Citizens have rights that are not listed in the Constitution	Any power not given to the federal government is reserved to the states (unless specifically denied to the states)

#### Civics EOC Exam Tutorial // The Bill of Rights: Sample Questions Amendments 1 through 10

EXPLAIN your answer in the space next to each question.

- 1. Which three rights are guaranteed by the Bill of Rights?
  - a. Freedom of speech, right to work, right to petition the government
  - b. Right to bear arms, right to a speedy trial, right to an education
  - c. Freedom of speech, right to bear arms, right to a speedy trial
  - d. Right to vote, right to work, right to a speedy trial

The Statement below was made by Thomas Jefferson in a 1786 letter to John Jay.

"...our liberty, which cannot be guarded but by the freedom of the press..."

- 2. Why should this freedom be guarded?
  - a. to provide the news media with a guaranteed profit
  - b. to keep the news media from controlling the political process
  - c. to provide the government with an accurate information source
  - d. to keep the government from becoming the primary information source

The image below symbolizes a right protected by the Bill of Rights.



- 3. What constitutional right does this image symbolize?
  - a. speedy trial
  - b. trial by peers
  - c. legal representation
  - d. peaceable assembly
- 4. Which constitutional principle is applied when police inform suspects of their rights?
  - a. due process of law
  - b. eminent domain
  - c. double jeopardy
  - d. trial by jury
- 5. Why does the U.S. Supreme Court continue to debate the constitutionality of the death penalty?
  - a. Citizens are protected from unreasonable search and seizure.
  - b. Citizens are protected from cruel and unusual punishment.
  - c. Citizens are protected against double jeopardy.
  - d. Citizens are protected against unfair trials.

The statement below was made by President Dwight Eisenhower upon signing Public Law 396 in 1954 which added "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

"To anyone who truly loves America, nothing could be more inspiring than to contemplate this rededication of our youth, on each school morning, to our country's true meaning."

- 6. Which First Amendment protections have been cited in opposition to this change?
  - a. establishment and free exercise
  - b. establishment and association
  - c. speech and free exercise
  - d. association and speech