

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. One of the freedoms of United States citizens is freedom of speech. Which of the following is the BEST reason why it is important to allow others the right to speak freely?

- A. People like to talk to people.
- B. It is important to hear different viewpoints on issues.
- C. People like to listen to other people.
- D. It is important for people to meet in groups.

2.

What was the purpose of the Preamble to our Constitution?

- A. The Preamble was a famous speech given by President Lincoln about our Constitution.
- B. The Preamble was a newspaper written about the need to free slaves.
- C. The Preamble was written to explain the purpose of the Declaration of Independence.
- D. The Preamble was written to explain the purpose of the Constitution.

3. The members of Congress are considering passing a law lowering the speed limit on highways. You do not think this is a good law. As a citizen, what would be the most effective action you could take?

- A. Write to your mayor and tell him/her your views.
- B. Contact the head of the highway department and tell him/her your views.
- C. Write to your city council and tell them your views.
- D. Contact your members of Congress and tell them your views.

4. Which of the following is ONE responsibility of a good citizen?

- A. owning a house
- B. obeying the laws
- C. raising a family
- D. attending a college

5. The Constitution of the United States includes the idea of federalism. What does this mean?

- A. The branches of government can check and control each other.
- B. The Constitution can be changed by adding amendments.
- C. The powers are divided between the different branches of government.
- D. The powers are divided between the federal government and the state governments.

6. The right of people to publish newspapers, magazines, and books is protected in the Bill of Rights. Which of the following is an example of freedom of the press?

- A. People can travel freely from one state to another.
 - B. People can choose whether or not they want to vote.
 - C. People can gather in groups to protest high food prices.
 - D. People can write articles criticizing the government.
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7. Which right is listed in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights?

- A. the right to vote
 - B. the right of assembly
 - C. the right to free housing
 - D. the right to a trial by a jury
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8. There are many laws that might not be popular with all Americans, but most Americans support them. Why is this important?

- A. to limit the power of the government
 - B. to keep the government strong
 - C. to encourage more people to live here
 - D. to protect the common good
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9. Your teacher has invited a guest to speak to your class. Some of the students do not care for the speaker. As good citizens, the MOST appropriate action for those students to take is to

- A. listen to the speaker.
 - B. put your heads on their desks.
 - C. talk to friends.
 - D. work on homework.
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10. The national government of the United States divides the powers between three branches. Which branch is responsible for making the laws?

- A. the international branch
- B. the executive branch
- C. the judicial branch
- D. the legislative branch

Answer Key

1. B) It is important to hear different viewpoints on issues.
2. D) The Preamble was written to explain the purpose of the Constitution.
3. D) Contact your members of Congress and tell them your views.
4. B) obeying the laws
5. D) The powers are divided between the federal government and the state governments.
6. D) People can write articles criticizing the government.
7. B) the right of assembly
8. D) to protect the common good
9. A) listen to the speaker.
10. D) the legislative branch