

Social Studies Ch. 15 Study Guide

Key

Vocabulary:

Amendment -

a change to the constitution

Appeal -

to request that a case or decision be reviewed by higher court; a chance to get a different decision from a higher court

Bill of Rights -

first 10 amendments to the Constitution that protect the rights & freedoms of American citizens

Civil Trial -

Non-criminal cases involving disputes among ind. about property, money or other personal matters
ex. people arguing over property-line

Due Process -

proper legal procedures, such as a fair trial

Ratify -

to approve; to make a written document official by signing it (ex. 9 of the 13 colonies had to ratify const. to make it official)

Resolution -

a statement that expresses the wishes or decisions of a group

Search & Seizure -

looking for & taking away property with reason

Questions:

Why is the Bill of Rights important?

Protects some of our most basic rights; it helped to convince some states to ratify the const.

Give at least 2 examples of bad things that happened under British rule that the Bill of Rights were meant to prevent from happening.

- Prevent national govt from being too strong
- Freedom of Religion (King had forced)
- Prevented things like the quartering act (housing soldiers)
- Fair Punishment
- Prevented illegal searches & seizures

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Summarize the rights protected in each of the first 10 amendments making up the Bill of Rights.

1.	Protects basic rights like freedom of speech, press & religion
2.	Right to bear arms (own guns); needed them for volunteer armies like militia
3.	People can't be forced to house & feed soldiers
4.	Gov't can't conduct searches and/or seizures (taking of property) w/o a warrant
5.	• no double jeopardy • no self-witness • Must have due process
6.	• Right to a fair trial by jury • Right to a lawyer
7.	Allowed to have civil trials
8.	Fair & reasonable punishment or fines
9.	People's rights are not limited to just the ones listed here
10.	The national gov't only has the powers given to it; the rest are with the states/people

Give an example situation of when would a person not be allowed to use the freedom of speech.

you can't yell fire in the middle of a crowded theater when there is no fire because it could lead to the injury or harm of others.

Can't interrupt a legal proceeding because it would interfere w/ due process of the law
 You can't verbally threaten or intimidate others w/ harm.