

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Why were the Founders careful about how much power a constitution would give the central government?
 - Ⓐ They wanted a government that would protect ruler's rights.
 - Ⓑ They didn't want to risk another revolution.
 - Ⓒ They wanted their leaders to have the same powers as a king.
 - Ⓓ They didn't want to risk people's freedoms being taken away.
2. The Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments were passed soon after _____.
 - Ⓐ the Civil War in the 1800s
 - Ⓑ students stood up for their rights
 - Ⓒ the Revolutionary War in the 1700s
 - Ⓓ criminals were getting unfairly punished
3. Read this sentence: *The Second Amendment protects a person's **right** to own and use weapons.* What does the word **right** mean in this sentence?
 - Ⓐ opposite of left
 - Ⓑ a freedom or power
 - Ⓒ a reason or want
 - Ⓓ the outcome of a vote
4. The part of the Bill of Rights that protects people who have been charged with crimes is _____.
 - Ⓐ the First Amendment
 - Ⓑ the Second Amendment
 - Ⓒ the Fourteenth Amendment
 - Ⓓ the Fifth Amendment

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5. What did Alondra Jones do after she visited a much cleaner, safer school than her own?
 - Ⓐ She graduated from a cleaner school.
 - Ⓑ She transferred to the better school.
 - Ⓒ She joined a lawsuit against the State of California.
 - Ⓓ She dropped out of school.
6. What do you think is the author's purpose for writing this book?
 - Ⓐ to explain the history of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights
 - Ⓑ to describe what an amendment is
 - Ⓒ to persuade the reader to obey the amendments in the Bill of Rights
 - Ⓓ to entertain with stories about the Founders' lives
7. How were James Madison and Thomas Jefferson alike?
 - Ⓐ They both wanted a bill of rights removed from the Constitution.
 - Ⓑ They both believed that adding a bill of rights could be dangerous.
 - Ⓒ They both wrote the Bill of Rights.
 - Ⓓ They both were from the state of Virginia.
8. Which states voted against the Constitution because they wanted a Bill of Rights?
 - Ⓐ North Carolina and Rhode Island
 - Ⓑ Virginia and Rhode Island
 - Ⓒ Iowa and Rhode Island
 - Ⓓ North Carolina and Virginia
9. What does the word **principles** mean?
 - Ⓐ a bill of rights
 - Ⓑ basic values
 - Ⓒ the separation of people based on their race
 - Ⓓ a document that all the Founders signed

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10. Read the following sentences:

The Founders of the United States created a system that promised liberty and freedom to its citizens. It is up to all Americans to keep that promise alive. What is the author's purpose for writing these sentences?

- Ⓐ to inform only
- Ⓑ to inform and persuade
- Ⓒ to entertain
- Ⓓ to entertain and persuade

11. **Extended Response:** What do you think the author meant when he stated that the Constitution was meant to be a "living, changing document"?

12. **Extended Response:** Read this sentence: *There is no limit to the number of amendments Americans can make to their Constitution.* What other amendments do you think should be added to the Bill of Rights?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Bill of Rights

Main Comprehension Skill: Author's Purpose

1. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
2. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
3. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
4. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
5. Ⓒ *Sequence Events*
6. Ⓐ *Author's Purpose*
7. Ⓓ *Compare and Contrast*
8. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
9. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
10. Ⓑ *Author's Purpose*
11. Answers will vary but should include conclusions drawn from the text. Example: *The number of amendments that Americans can make is unlimited, the Constitution should reflect changing times and can be updated, and so on.*
12. Answers will vary according to personal experiences and opinions but may include issues such as immigration, taxes, government involvement in the economy, and so on.