



A Strong Start for the Nation

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER ACTIVITY

The Bill of Rights

Complete the graphic organizer by explaining in your own words each amendment in the Bill of Rights. Then explain the reason these rights were considered important in the late 1700s.

Bill of Rights

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII

VIII

IX

X

Reasons for the Bill of Rights

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GRAPHIC ORGANIZER: POSSIBLE SOLUTION

The Bill of Rights

Complete the graphic organizer by explaining in your own words each amendment in the Bill of Rights. Then explain the reason these rights were considered important in the late 1700s.

Bill of Rights

- I** All people have the right to gather peacefully in religious or political groups. They also have freedom of religion, speech, press, and petition.
- II** States are allowed to keep troops; individual people to keep firearms.
- III** The government cannot order people to house soldiers except in times of war.
- IV** Police have to have a warrant, based on strong evidence, before they can search your property or person.
- V** No one can force you to testify against yourself; you must be read your rights when you are arrested; the government must pay for any property it takes.
- VI** Everyone will receive a fair trial. The government will provide a lawyer in criminal cases if you do not have one.
- VII** Everyone is entitled to a jury trial when the civil case is big enough to warrant it.
- VIII** You must be treated with fairness and decency even when accused of a crime.
- IX** Even if a right is not listed in the Constitution, people are still entitled to that right.
- X** States can pass laws on internal matters such as water rights, schools, roads, etc. as long as they are not unconstitutional or already governed by the federal government.

Reasons for the Bill of Rights

Answers will vary; George III had attempted to rescind all individual rights in order to gain control of the colonies. Colonists were wary of a strong government and felt the new government should be constructed to support individual rights.