



*My Rights & Liberties: SS.7.CG.2.3*  
**The Bill of Rights and Other Amendments**  
**VIDEO #2 SCRIPT**

---



## The Bill of Rights and Amendments 2-10 Video #2

1. Now that we've covered the First Amendment and now we know that there are five freedoms in it – speech, press, religious exercise, peaceable assembly and petition, let's take a look and what the other 9 amendments in the Bill of Rights do.
2. In this video, we will explore the rights found in Amendments Two through Ten. After watching, you will be able to:
  - ✓ Recognize that the Bill of Rights contains the first ten amendments to the US Constitution.
  - ✓ Explain the rights contained in Amendments 2 through 10 of the US Constitution.Let's get started!
3. The Second Amendment states: A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. The Second Amendment gives citizens the right to keep weapons, such as guns.
4. The Third Amendment says that the government cannot force you to keep soldiers in your house. Although this amendment doesn't really impact citizens of today, before the colonies declared independence from England, the king could force troops to stay in the colonist's home!
5. The Fourth Amendment protects citizens from unreasonable search and seizure. A search and seizure can happen when the police believe that a crime has been committed. The police can search a person's property to seize evidence that may have to do with the crime. This amendment says police must have a reason to search, have a warrant, or official permission from a judge, to search a person's personal property, home or body.
6. The Fifth Amendment includes a lot of big ideas concerning the rights of people accused with a crime. We will review three of those big ideas: due process, protection against self-incrimination, and double jeopardy.
7. Due process means that a person cannot have his or her life, liberty or property taken away without a constitutional legal process. Due process makes sure that the law treats a person fairly, such as those accused of crimes having access to a lawyer, protected by the 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and a trial by jury, also protected by the 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Remember that citizens are innocent until proven guilty and it is the job of a jury to decide on this issue based on the evidence presented in a case.

8. Protection against self-incrimination, also known as pleading the fifth, is the right of a person to refuse to testify, or answer questions, while under oath in a court of law on the grounds that the answers could be used as evidence to charge or convict the person of a crime.
9. It also means that a person cannot be forced to say anything that may be used against them when being questioned by police or during the trial. Police are required to read people their rights when arrested. “You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law...”
10. If you watch any legal or crime t.v. show you have probably heard this before. Police are required by law to read people their rights when they are arrested, part of this text is the right to remain silent or protection against self-incrimination.
11. The Fifth Amendment also protects people accused of crimes from double jeopardy. This means that a person cannot be tried twice for the same crime. If you are found not guilty once, they cannot retry you for that same crime!
12. Wow! That was a lot of information and we’re only halfway through the Bill of Rights. Let’s stop and review what we’ve just learned.
13. Let’s check in: Can you identify the big ideas from Amendments 2, 3, and 4?
14. ANSWER TO QUESTION
15. Can you identify the three big ideas from the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment?
16. ANSWER TO QUESTION
17. Great! Let’s keep going. Amendments 6-10 are coming up!
18. The 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment also addresses the rights of people accused of crimes. These rights include a speedy trial, the right to a trial by jury and the right to a lawyer for a person’s defense.
19. The right to a speedy trial means that there is a process in place so that people accused of a crime cannot be held for such a long time that they would receive an unfair trial. You can't leave a person sitting in jail without a trial.
20. A trial by jury means that the issue of the case is determined by a judge and a jury. A jury usually includes 12 persons selected by the court to determine facts and make a judgment of whether or not the crime was committed by the person accused of committing that crime. Juries decide whether a person is guilty or not guilty of committing that crime.
21. The 7<sup>th</sup> Amendment protects the right of a jury trial in certain civil cases. For example, someone is suing someone else. They have the right to have it decided by a jury.
22. The 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment protects people accused of a crime from cruel and unusual punishment. Cruel and unusual punishment is defined as punishments that are determined to be too harsh for the crime. For example, you won't go to jail for jaywalking.

23. The death penalty has been questioned for a long time as to whether it should be considered cruel and unusual punishment. Many states have decided that the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment and have made it illegal, although the US Supreme Court allows states to decide whether or not they will have the death penalty as a punishment option.

24. The Ninth Amendment explains that the Constitution does not include all protected rights. This means that there are other rights that people have that are not specifically listed in the Bill of Rights or the Constitution. Some of these rights are the right to privacy, the right to vote, the right to marry, and the right to have children. We don't all agree on these, and many are left up to the states.

25. The Tenth Amendment further defines the balance of power between the federal/national government and the states. The amendment says that the federal/national government has only those powers specifically granted by the Constitution.

26. These powers include the power to declare war, to collect taxes, to regulate interstate business activities and others that are listed in the Articles of the Constitution. Any power not given to the federal government is left to the states or the people. Some of these powers are laws involve who must attend school, what is taught in school, business within a state's borders, and local law enforcement activities.

27. Let's check in: Can you identify the big ideas from Amendments 6-10?

28. ANSWER TO QUESTION

29. Let's recap what we have learned today. The Bill of Rights contains ten amendments. Amendment One deals with free speech, free press, peaceable assembly, freedom of religious expression, and right to petition. Amendment Two is the right to bear arms. Amendment Three is no quartering of soldiers. Amendment Four is protections from unreasonable search and seizure. Amendment Five protects due process and prevents double jeopardy and self-incrimination. Amendment Six protects the right to a speedy trial, right to a jury trial, and the right to a lawyer. Amendment 7 protects the right to a jury trial in civil cases. The Eighth Amendment protects against cruel and unusual punishment. The Ninth Amendment protects individual rights not listed in the Bill of Rights or the Constitution and the Tenth Amendment protects the rights of the states.

30. We do have a few more amendments to discuss, so be sure to watch the next video to learn more about the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th Amendments!