

## SS.7.C.2.4 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	Where can a description of U.S. citizens' civil liberties be found?	<p>Students will be able to define civil liberties and know which among the founding documents includes a description of civil liberties.</p> <p>The correct response will identify the document that includes a list of civil liberties.</p>
A	Declaration of Independence	<b>Incorrect</b> – The Declaration of Independence is a statement of grievances against Parliament and the King. The Declaration of Independence does not describe civil liberties.
B	Preamble to the Constitution	<b>Incorrect</b> – The Preamble to the Constitution is a statement of goals for the Constitution. The Preamble does not identify any specific civil liberties.
C	Pledge of Allegiance	<b>Incorrect</b> – The Pledge of Allegiance is a statement of loyalty to the United States. The Pledge of Allegiance does not identify any specific civil liberties.
D	Bill of Rights	<b>Correct</b> – The Bill of Rights is an enumeration (listing) of civil liberties. The Bill of Rights was developed to limit federal government power, and to protect individuals from abuse of federal government power.

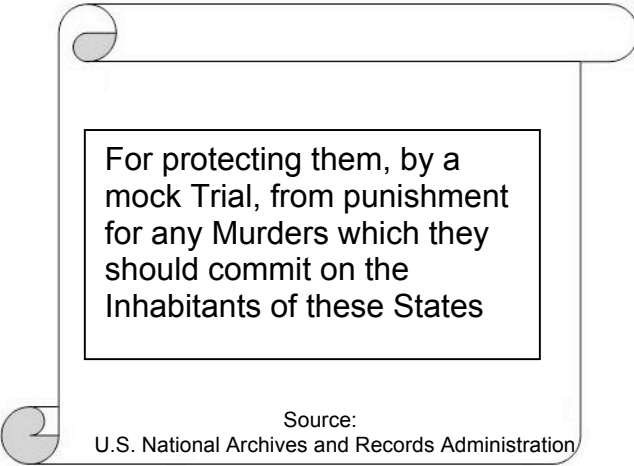


## SS.7.C.2.4 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The statement below was made by Thomas Jefferson in a 1786 letter to John Jay.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center;">. . . our liberty, which cannot be guarded but by the freedom of the press . . .</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Source: Public Domain / Library of Congress</p> <p>Why should this freedom be guarded?</p>	<p>The statement is from a letter from one Founding Father to another Founding Father.</p> <p>The correct response should explain why freedom of the press must be guarded in order to protect freedom.</p>
A	to provide the news media with a guaranteed profit	<b>Incorrect</b> – Freedom of the press does not guarantee profits for any media source.
B	to keep the news media from controlling the political process	<b>Incorrect</b> – Freedom of the press does not give the news media control over the political process even though the media can influence government.
C	to provide the government with an accurate information source	<b>Incorrect</b> – Providing the government with accurate information is a result of freedom of the press because the media have the freedom to gather news and information which they may share with government.
D	to keep the government from becoming the primary information source	<b>Correct</b> – Freedom of the press allows the media to gather news and information which they share with the public. This keeps the government from being the public’s primary information source.



## SS.7.C.2.4 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

<p>Question</p>	<p>The passage below is one of the grievances found in the Declaration of Independence.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration</p> </div> <p>Which rights listed in the Bill of Rights reflect this complaint?</p>	<p>The Bill of Rights includes the first ten amendments of the U.S. Constitution. Read the passage and predict how the Framers addressed the problem of “mock Trial[s]” in the Bill of Rights.</p> <p>The correct answer should identify rights that are protected by the Bill of Rights.</p>
<p>A</p>	<p>due process of law, assistance of counsel, speedy and public trial</p>	<p><b>Correct</b> – A “mock trial” means a fake trial, so colonists who were accused of murder were not given a fair trial. This is the correct answer because the Fifth and Sixth Amendments protect criminal trial rights.</p> <p>Due process is a system of justice that follows established laws and principles. The Fifth Amendment states that the government cannot deprive a citizen of life, liberty nor property without due process of law. Assistance of counsel means that persons who are accused of crimes have the right to be represented by an attorney; this right is protected by the Sixth Amendment. The Sixth Amendment also protects the right to a speedy and public trial.</p>
<p>B</p>	<p>equal protection, assistance of counsel, speedy and public trial</p>	<p><b>Incorrect</b> – Equal protection is guaranteed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, not the Bill of Rights.</p>
<p>C</p>	<p>bear arms, due process of law, speedy and public trial</p>	<p><b>Incorrect</b> – The right to bear arms is protected by the Second Amendment, but it is not a criminal trial right.</p>
<p>D</p>	<p>bear arms, equal protection, speedy and public trial</p>	<p><b>Incorrect</b> – Equal protection is guaranteed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, not in the Bill of Rights.</p>

