Freedoms in Action

Read how the First Amendment protects everyday choices.

2.C.1.6 "Explain how individual liberties are protected by the Bill of Rights, using examples from the First Amendment."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action a person takes in each paragraph. Circle the words that tell which First Amendment freedom helps protect each action.

Choices in Our Town

1. The Bill of Rights is part of the U.S. Constitution. It helps protect freedoms from the government. The First Amendment protects free speech. At a town meeting, Maya tells leaders she wants more trees in the park.

2. The First Amendment also protects freedom of religion. Sam's family goes to a church, while Lee's family does not. The government cannot make either family follow a religion. Both families can choose what they believe.

3. The First Amendment protects the right to meet peacefully and ask the government to fix a problem. Neighbors meet at a library and sign a letter asking the town to repair a broken sidewalk.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does the First Amendment protect Maya when she speaks at the town meeting?

2. Why can Sam's and Lee's families make different choices about religion?

3. How does the First Amendment protect the neighbors when they meet and sign a letter?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a new situation in your town, not one in the passage. Write two sentences: tell what someone does, then explain how the First Amendment protects that freedom from the government.

ANSWER KEY

Freedoms in Action

GRADE 2 · 2.C.1.6

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one action a person takes in each paragraph. Circle the words that tell which First Amendment freedom helps protect each action. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does the First Amendment protect Maya when she speaks at the town meeting?	**It protects her free speech, so she can tell leaders she wants more trees.**
2	Why can Sam's and Lee's families make different choices about religion?	**The First Amendment protects freedom of religion. The government cannot make either family follow a religion.**
3	How does the First Amendment protect the neighbors when they meet and sign a letter?	**It protects their right to meet peacefully and ask the government to fix the sidewalk.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Nora reads her poem about bike paths to her neighbors. The First Amendment protects her right to share her opinion, even if town leaders disagree.

Accept examples that name a First Amendment freedom and explain how it protects a person's choice from government action. The example in Part 3 must be different from those in the passage.