From Protest to Protection

Connect colonial experiences to the Bill of Rights

5.C.6.2.A "Draw connections to colonial conditions which prompted the adoption of particular amendments."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, circle one colonial condition and underline the amendment adopted in response. Write the same number beside each matching pair to show the connection.

Why These Rights Mattered

1. Imagine a crowded street in a British colony. Neighbors gather to argue that taxes set across the ocean are unfair. They write a petition asking leaders to change the rules and print their views in a newspaper. British officials sometimes tried to silence protests against their rule. After independence, Americans wanted the First Amendment to protect speech, the press, peaceful meetings, and petitions to the government.

2. Now picture soldiers arriving in a colonial town. British laws required colonies to provide places and supplies for troops. These rules angered many colonists, who feared that soldiers might be housed in their homes. After independence, Americans added the Third Amendment. It says the government cannot house soldiers in a private home during peacetime without the owner's consent. During wartime, it must follow the law.

3. At a busy harbor, a customs officer searches for goods brought in without paying taxes. Under British rule, officers could use broad search papers called writs of assistance. These papers did not name one particular place to search. Colonists worried that officers had too much power to enter and search their property. The Fourth Amendment later protected people from unreasonable searches and required search warrants to name specific places and items.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Why would colonists who printed their views in newspapers support the First Amendment?

2. How did rules about lodging British troops help lead to the Third Amendment?

3. How did writs of assistance help lead to the Fourth Amendment?

4. Colonists held meetings and wrote petitions about taxes. Which First Amendment protections answered those two ways of protesting?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a five-sentence museum story about a colonial family. Invent a believable scene with two different problems described in the passage, then name the two amendments later adopted in response and explain how each would protect the family.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 5 · 5.C.6.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, circle one colonial condition and underline the amendment adopted in response. Write the same number beside each matching pair to show the connection. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why would colonists who printed their views in newspapers support the First Amendment?	**British officials sometimes tried to silence protests. The First Amendment protects the freedom to share views in print.**
2	How did rules about lodging British troops help lead to the Third Amendment?	**Colonists feared soldiers might be housed in their homes. The Third Amendment bars housing soldiers in private homes during peacetime without the owner's consent.**
3	How did writs of assistance help lead to the Fourth Amendment?	**Writs of assistance allowed broad searches without naming a particular place. The Fourth Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and requires specific warrants.**
4	Colonists held meetings and wrote petitions about taxes. Which First Amendment protections answered those two ways of protesting?	**The First Amendment protects peaceful meetings and petitions to the government.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In a colonial town, the Bell family prints a newspaper article criticizing a tax. A British official warns them to stop sharing their views. Later, the family hears that their town must find lodging for British soldiers, and they fear troops may be placed in their home. The First Amendment later protected the family's right to share opinions in print. The Third Amendment later protected their home from housing soldiers during peacetime without their consent.

Accept any two distinct colonial conditions from the passage paired with the correct amendments and an accurate explanation of each protection. Students may invent people and events, but their scenes should remain historically believable.