



Rights of the Accused Overview

Directions: Examine your assigned amendment using the simplified explanation and accompanying video(s).

Amendment	Amendment Simplified	Resources
Fourth Amendment	No one can search your body, your house, or your papers and personal belongings unless they can prove to a judge that they have a good reason for the search.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● My Home is My Castle (Video)
Fifth Amendment	Except during times of war or if you are in the military: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● You cannot be tried for any serious crime without a grand jury meeting first to decide whether there is enough evidence against you for a trial.● If at the end of a trial, the jury decides you are innocent, the government is not allowed to try you again for the same crime with another jury.● You cannot be forced to admit you are guilty of a crime. You also have the right not to speak at your own trial.● You cannot be killed, put in jail, or fined unless you are convicted of a crime by a jury and all of the proper legal steps during your arrest and trial are followed.● The government is not allowed to take your house, your farm, or anything that is yours unless the government pays for it at a fair price.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Due Process of Law (Video)● Presumed Innocent (Video)



Amendment	Amendment Simplified	Resources
Sixth Amendment	<p>If you are arrested and charged with a crime:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have a right to have your trial soon and in public so everyone knows what is happening. The case has to be decided by a jury of ordinary people that live near you, if you wish. You have the right to know what you are accused of doing wrong, and to see, hear, and cross-examine the people who are witnesses against you. You have the right to a lawyer to help you. If you cannot afford to pay a lawyer, the government will provide one for you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Right to a Fair Trial (Video)
Seventh Amendment	<p>You also have the right to a jury when it is a civil case (a legal case between two people rather than between you and the government).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Right to a Fair Trial (Video)
Eighth Amendment	<p>The government cannot make you pay more than is reasonable in bail or in fines, and the government is not allowed to inflict cruel or unusual punishments, such as torture, even if you are convicted of a crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cruel and Unusual (Video)

My assigned amendment is the _____ amendment.

One thing I agree about my assigned amendment	One thing I disagree about my assigned amendment	One thing I wonder about my assigned amendment