

Bill of Rights is a formal constitutional declaration by which a government defines fundamental rights and liberties of its citizens and establishes their protection against arbitrary or capricious interference or infringement by the government. Specifically, in Western political tradition, the term is used to signify the Bill of Rights of England, the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen of France, and, in the United States it includes the first ten amendments to the federal Constitution and portions of the constitutions of the individual states where similar guarantees are offered. By extension of meaning, bills of rights are sometimes regarded as including the definition and establishment of rights and liberties through tradition or in documents or enactments prior or subsequent to any formal declaration bearing their name. In the United States, where the protections of its Bill of Rights derive significantly from English sources, the general term *bill of rights* sometimes also includes additional protections that are asserted throughout the federal Constitution (especially in its 14th Amendment) and enunciated in constitutional decisions of the federal courts.

1. Translate the text.
2. Write five questions to cover the whole text.
3. Write down all passive clauses from the text and re-write them in the active form if possible.
4. Write down the exact word(s) from the text that are replaced with the underlined pronouns.
5. Find all: a) adjectives in the text and compare them
b) adverbs in the text and specify their kind.

In the form in which it was originally drafted and ratified, the Bill of Rights was understood only as a limitation on what might be done constitutionally by the new national government. State, county, and municipal officers' limitations were prescribed by their state's own constitution, but in 1833 the Supreme Court decided that the guarantees of the first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States did not apply as limitations on the power of the states and that of their subordinate local authorities. If, for example, a state legislature, at some time before the adoption of the 14th Amendment in 1868, had enacted a statute calling for the censorship of newspapers in the state, it could have been challenged in the courts for violation of some relevant provision of that state's constitution. However, no question of federal constitutional law would have been raised. The 1st Amendment's guarantee of freedom of the press operated, of its own force, only to prevent restrictive action by the national government. The states were free, subject only to their own constitutions, to place any restrictions on civil liberties as their legislatures might see fit to impose.

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In some countries special courts for family matters were set up in pursuit of religious, political, or social objectives. These include the Christian, Muslim, and Jewish ecclesiastical courts. Another approach has been to establish courts that are functionally related to the legal problems affect families. They include marriage, divorce, annulment, matrimonial regime, maintenance of spouses or children, adoption, custody of children, legitimacy, filiation proceedings, juvenile delinquency, care and protection of children, assault on a spouse or a child, torts between spouses, marriage contracts, and judicial separation. The facts of the dispute in a family matter may not be as significant as the problems (financial or health problems, drugs or alcohol) that have led to it. Since children and young people are often involved, special courts have been established in a number of countries for cases relating to them and they have also set up special procedures for the disposition of such cases.

1. Translate the text.
2. Put five questions to cover the whole text.
3. Find all PASSIVE SENTENCES in the text, write them down and transform them into active, if possible.
4. Write down all the sentences from the text that are **not in the Simple Present Tense**, analyze them (S,P,O_i/O_d/O_p,A_m/A_p/A_t) and define the tenses.
5. Find the exact words/phrases in the text replaced by the underlined pronouns and write them down.

Delegates to the Constitutional Convention had trouble shaping the office of the president of the new nation. They had struggled to find balance between an office that was powerful enough to provide unified leadership but not so strong that presidents could use their powers to become tyrants or dictators. Congress has also delegated a lot of power to the executive branch, further expanding the role of the president. Since the president is elected by the entire nation, he can claim that he represents all citizens when proposing policy. This broad electoral base equips the presidency to be an institution of majoritarian as opposed to pluralist democracy. The executive branch establishment has grown rapidly and the White House has become a sizable bureaucracy. Within it, the presidential 'job description' for foreign policy has changed considerably. Post-World War II presidents had been preoccupied with containing the spread of communism, but with the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, international economic relations now loom even larger as a priority for them.

1. Translate the text written in *Italics*.
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4. Write down the exact word(s) from the text that are replaced with the underlined pronouns.
5. Write down all PAST PERFECT CLAUSES from the text and determine the functions within them (S, P, O, A...).