

The First Amendment in a Digital Landscape

Day 1



Warm Up

“Imagine that this morning, you arrived at school and were told that starting today, students could only eat foods purchased from the cafeteria. While accommodations would be made for students with food allergies, this also means no outside foods can be brought in for any reason. Usually, you bring some snacks from home to add to the lunch, but this will no longer be allowed. You and your friends are upset about this change, but you aren’t really sure how to proceed and what you can do to bring attention to this issue. In civics class... you are learning about the Constitution and your rights, but you aren’t sure if they apply in this situation. What can you do?”

Background

When delegates met in 1787, their purpose was to revise the Articles of Confederation



Instead of revising, the delegates created a new plan: **The Constitution**



During the ratification process, Anti-Federalists argued that there were no protections for individual rights



As a compromise, the **Bill of Rights** was added to the Constitution

First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

With your partner or small group...

1. Reread the text of First Amendment
2. Underline the rights protected by the First Amendment

Let's take a closer look at the First Amendment

3. Watch the attached video: [**First Amendment 101**](#)

Let's take a closer look at the First Amendment

In your group, discuss what these rights have in common and how they are connected to one another

Digging Deeper into the First Amendment

Working alone or with your partner, review the attached [slide deck](#) from the National Constitution Center.

- Respond to the following question: **How would these rights apply to your situation with the cafeteria? Can you as a student exercise these rights to state your concerns?**

Exit Ticket

Why are Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Press so important for self-expression?

- Explain your thinking in 2-3 complete sentences.