

The Philosophy of Free Speech

TEST QUESTIONS

The Constitution was written in 1787, but it was not ratified immediately. Why not?

A: Not everyone supported it at first. There was a disagreement between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists (about how strong the central government should be) that had to be settled, first.

List 3 Federalists and 3 Anti-Federalists. Put a star by the group who insisted that the rights reserved to citizens be spelled out in the Constitution.

Federalists: George Washington, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay

*Anti-Federalists: Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Patrick Henry, Sam Adams **

The compromise spelling out the rights guaranteed to citizens is known as the:
Bill of Rights

Why did some of these early writers refuse to sign their name to their writing?

Because they feared punishment or prosecution from the government/the Crown.

The period of time leading up to many new discoveries and political theories is referred to as:

- a.** The American Renaissance
- b.** The American Decade
- c.** The American Enlightenment *
- d.** The American Establishment

Match the author(s) to his work(s)

John Milton

John Stuart Mill

John Locke

A Letter Concerning Toleration

Areopagitica

On Liberty

Second Treatise on Government

Fill in the missing words from the 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) .

According to John Stuart Mill, why is it important to listen to opposing points of view?

- a.** to discover which views are fallacious
- b.** to correct and complete one's own opinion by comparing with others
- c.** to become aware of all objections and difficulties with one's position
- d.** all of the above*
- e.** none of the above

According to John Stuart Mill, why is a bad idea for some ideas to be considered beyond argument or dispute?

- a.** the claims are useful to society
- b.** the only way to determine the truth or usefulness of an idea is to hear arguments on both sides of the issue*
- c.** people do not know what they would do without these opinions
- d.** some claims are infallible

Why did John Milton write Areopagitica?

- a.** to oppose hate speech
- b.** to argue in favor of speech restrictions
- c.** to protest government censorship*
- d.** to protest the power of the church

Which Enlightenment writer has been called "the intellectual founding father of the United States?"

- a.** John Milton
- b.** John Locke *
- c.** John Stuart Mill
- d.** John Lennon