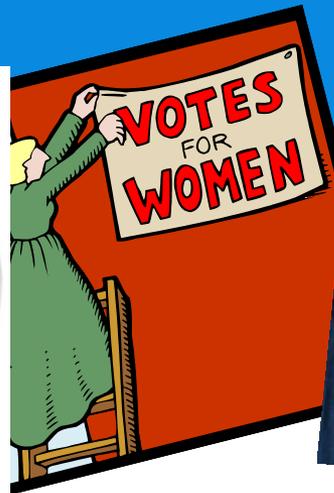


All Part of the Process

Benchmarks

SS.7.C.3.7 Analyze the impact of the 13th, 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th amendments on participation of minority groups in the American political process.



Could you pass the test ?

Voter Literacy Test

From the 1965 Alabama Literacy Test

1. Which of the following is a right guaranteed by the Bill of Rights?

- Public Education
- Employment
- Trial by Jury
- Voting

2. If a person is indicted for a crime, name two rights which he has.

3. If a vacancy occurs in the U.S. Senate, the state must hold an election, but meanwhile the place may be filled by a temporary appointment made by _____.

4. A U.S. senator is elected for a term of _____ years.

5. Appropriation of money for the armed services can be only for a period limited to _____ years.

6. The Constitution protects an individual against punishments which are _____ and _____.

7. If no candidate for President receives a majority of the electoral vote, who decides who will become President?

8. Congress passes laws regulating cases which are included in those _____

- Complete the test.
- Do you think you passed?

Throughout the history of our country, some states implemented literacy or knowledge-based tests to determine eligibility for voting. What if your ability to vote was based on this test?

How can citizens participate in the political process?

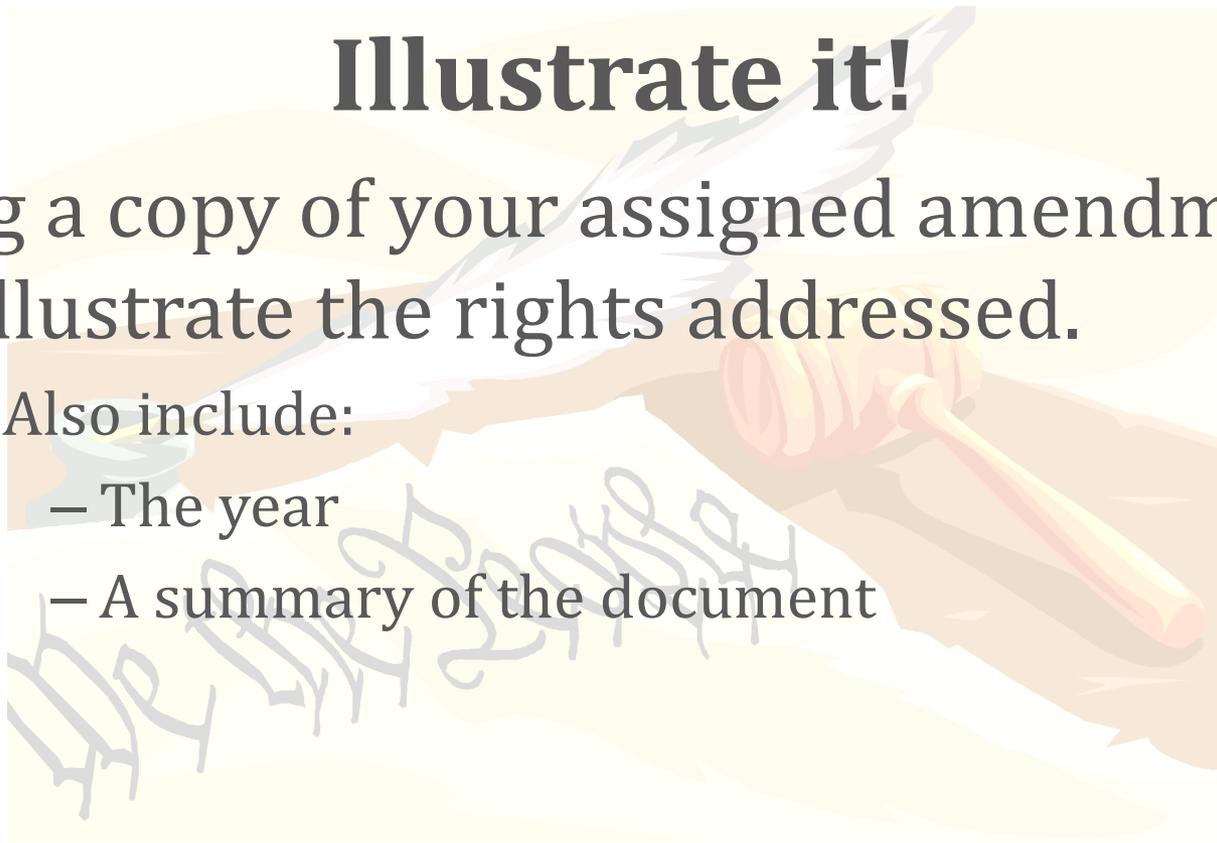
- Voting
- Volunteering for a campaign
- Joining an interest group
- Lobbying the government
- Writing to government officials
- Running for office
- And more!



The Right to Participate

Illustrate it!

- Using a copy of your assigned amendment or act, illustrate the rights addressed.
 - Also include:
 - The year
 - A summary of the document



Put it on the Timeline!

Work with the other groups to create a timeline of the amendments to the U.S. Constitution and Acts of Congress.



– Include:

- The year
- A summary of the document
- An illustration of the document

Put it on the Timeline!

AMENDMENT XIII (13)
Ratified December 6,
1865.
Abolished slavery



AMENDMENT XV (15)
Ratified February 3,
1870.
Banned the restriction
of voting based on
race.



AMENDMENT XIV (14)
Ratified July 9, 1868.
Established that all former slaves
were considered full citizens;
repealed the 3/5 compromise.
Also set the voting age at 21+.

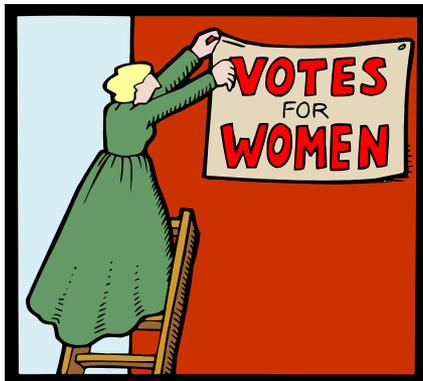


Put it on the Timeline!

AMENDMENT XIX (19)
Ratified August 18, 1920.
Banned the restriction of
voting on the basis of
gender.



AMENDMENT XXVI (26)
Ratified July 1, 1971.
Voting age lowered to 18.



AMENDMENT XXIV (24)
Ratified January 23, 1964.
Poll taxes were banned.
Citizens would no longer
have to pay to vote.



18+

The 13th AMENDMENT

Ratified December 6, 1865.

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude...shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Slaves were considered property and were not considered American citizens. This meant they were restricted from voting.

Once the thirteenth amendment was passed, they were still not permitted to vote – just because slavery was illegal, it did not make them citizens...

The 14th Amendment

Ratified July 9, 1868.

All persons **born or naturalized** in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, **are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside**. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; **nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.**

The 15th Amendment

Ratified February 3, 1870.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude--

The 19th AMENDMENT

Also called the Equal Rights Amendment

Ratified August 18, 1920.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

The Nineteenth Amendment of the U. S. Constitution banned the restriction of voting based on sex/gender.

Women's Suffrage Movement

- Began with the first women's rights convention in 1848.
- Over the next 50+ years, women's suffrage* supporters would circulate petitions and lobby Congress to pass a Constitutional Amendment to enfranchise (give the right to vote to) women.

*The right to vote in political elections.



<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3a52783>

Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division

We Are Caught in a Bad Romance: 'Til We Have Women's Suffrage



Click the image to view “We Are Caught In a Bad Romance
Til We Have Women’s Suffrage” on School Tube.

The 24th Amendment

Ratified January 23, 1964.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote...**shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State because of failure to pay poll**

Some states instituted taxes, or fees, that had to be paid in order to vote, knowing that many poor people would be unable to afford the fee.

But the Constitution says...

- Even with amendments to the Constitution prohibiting race-based discrimination in voting, there were still significant obstacles to voting in some states.
 - Literacy tests
 - Harassment and intimidation
 - Poll taxes (prohibited in the 24th Amendment)
 - Bureaucratic measures
- States asserted it was within states' rights to create their own voting laws and guidelines.

Civil Rights Movement

- Movement in which African Americans sought full legal equality through a series of protests, demonstrations, and legislation.



<http://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-in-History/Civil-Rights-Movement.aspx>

Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Ended segregation in public places and most private businesses
- Banned employment discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.



Click the image to view *The History Channel's* short video about the Civil Rights Act.

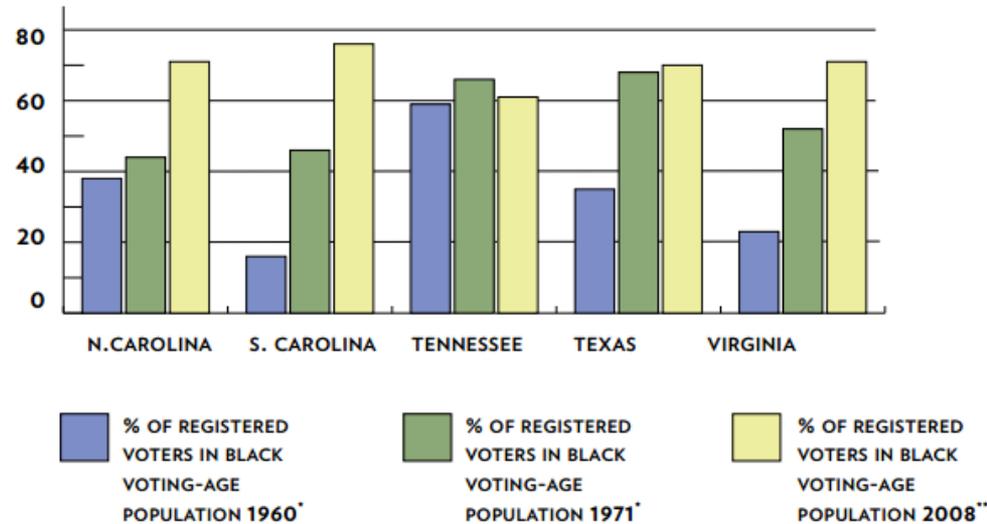
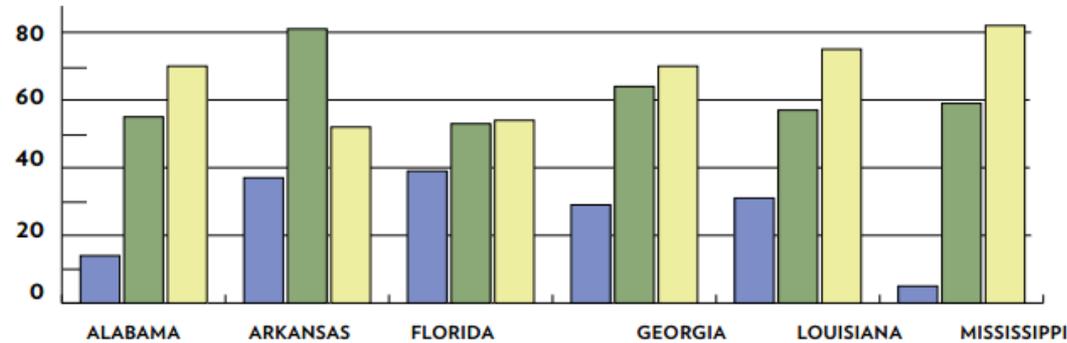
<http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act>

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- Enforced the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
- Eliminated voter literacy tests for federal, state, and local elections
- Also required certain states to submit proposed voting changes to the United States Attorney General or a three-judge court in Washington DC before such a change could take effect.



The Impact of the Voting Rights Act



In 1965 the voter registration figure in Mississippi was just 7% for African-Americans.

In 2008, it was over 80%.

Civil Rights Act of 1968

Also known as the Fair Housing Act

- The bill's original goal was to extend federal protection to civil rights workers.
- Prohibited discrimination concerning the sale, rental and financing of housing based on race, religion, national origin and sex.
- The act stands as the final great legislative achievement of the civil rights era.

Making a Movement



<http://historyforfree.com/2013/07/08/a-brief-history-of-lowering-the-voting-age-and-the-26th-amendment/>

- In the late 1960's there was growing support for lowering the voting age from 21 to 18 among student and youth activists who opposed U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War.
- Many American soldiers drafted to serve in Vietnam were between the ages of 18 and 21, a fact that helped to popularize the slogan, "old enough to fight, old enough to vote."

The 26th Amendment

Ratified July 1, 1971.

The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

After the Vietnam conflict in the 1960's, many felt that if you are old enough to be drafted (18+) to fight in the U.S. military, you should be able to vote.



Ongoing Social Movements

- Working with a partner, you will research current social movements (movements for social change) and select one to highlight. You will need to include:
 - The name of the movement
 - The purpose/mission of the movement
 - The group(s) impacted by the movement
 - How the group is participating in the political process and the rights they are exercising to advance their mission