



Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

United States History

Primary Sources: The English Bill of Rights (1689)

DIRECTIONS: The left column contains excerpts from the English Bill of Rights. Using the column to the right, paraphrase each excerpt from the document.

...to their Majesties King William and Queen Mary:

1. Whereas. . .that the pretended power of suspending laws or the execution of laws by regal authority without consent of Parliament is illegal;	
4. That levying money for or to the use of the Crown by pretence of prerogative, without grant of Parliament. . .is illegal;	
5. That it is the right of the subjects to petition the king, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal;	
6. That the raising or keeping a standing army within the kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with consent of Parliament, is against law;	
8. That election of members of Parliament ought to be free;	
9. That the freedom of speech and debates or proceedings in Parliament ought not to be. . .questioned in any court or place out of Parliament;	
10. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted;	
11. That jurors ought to be duly impaneled and returned, and jurors which pass upon men in trials for high treason ought to be freeholders;	
12. That all grants and promises of fines and forfeitures of particular persons before conviction are illegal and void;	
13. And that for redress of all grievances, and for the amending, strengthening and preserving of the laws, Parliaments ought to be held frequently.	

DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. Which **English king** signed the English Bill of Rights and in what **year** was the document drafted?

2. What **freedoms are** described in **Lines 5** and **9** of the English Bill of Rights? Which **amendment** to the United States Constitution might have been based on these sections?

3. Briefly describe the idea(s) contained in **Line 6** AND explain **why** this might have been included. Which **amendment** to the Constitution might have been based on this section?

4. Which **amendment** to the Constitution might have been based on **Line 10** of the English Bill of Rights?

5. Cite specific lines from the English Bill of Rights to explain how the document **protects** the power of **Parliament**.

6. Which **themes** are common to **both** the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights?
