

Name _____

THE Tenth Amendment

Introduction:

The Constitution limits the power of the federal government. The first nine amendments in the Bill of Rights all guarantee freedoms and rights to the people. The Tenth Amendment limits the power of the federal government. In this amendment, the Founders made clear that the powers of the federal government must come directly from the Constitution. All other powers rest with the states.

The text of this amendment reads, “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

Questions:

1. What rights are protected under the Tenth Amendment?
2. What year was the Tenth Amendment ratified?
3. What does “delegate” mean?
4. What does “prohibit” mean?
5. What does “federalism” mean?
6. What does “nullification” mean?
7. What was the ruling of the Supreme Court in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)?
8. What was the ruling of the Supreme Court in *Printz v. U.S.* (1997)?
9. How is the Tenth Amendment different from other amendments in the Bill of Rights?
10. How does the Tenth Amendment limit the power of the federal government?

Answer Key

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The text of this amendment reads, “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

Questions:

1. What rights are protected under the Tenth Amendment?

Rights of the states

2. What year was the Tenth Amendment ratified?

1791

3. What does “delegate” mean?

Entrust a responsibility to someone

4. What does “prohibit” mean?

Forbid

5. What does “federalism” mean?

Power divided between federal and state governments

6. What does “nullification” mean?

States declare a federal act null and void

7. What was the ruling of the Supreme Court in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819)?

Federal government has implied power over the states in some areas

8. What was the ruling of the Supreme Court in *Printz v. U.S.* (1997)?

Federal government cannot make states enforce federal programs

9. How is the Tenth Amendment different from other amendments in the Bill of Rights?

The first nine guarantee freedoms to the people

10. How does the Tenth Amendment limit the power of the federal government?

Answers will vary; It says that the powers of the federal government must come directly from the Constitution.