

## SESSION PREPARATION

- Review the key vocabulary for the lesson.
- Explain that the U.S. Constitution is the foundation of law and government for the country. Explain that it doesn't happen often, but sometimes the Constitution needs to be changed. These changes are called "Amendments". The first, and some would argue, the most critical amendment is the First Amendment which protects individual freedom.
- Using the Five Freedoms game board pictures, explain the First Amendment and describe the five freedoms it protects.
- Prepare participants for the Five Freedoms Game.

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- Five Freedoms game board and picture cards (1 set per group)
- Petition template (1 per group) (optional)
- First Amendment Rights Fact Sheet (1 per participant) (optional)

## ACTIVITY BANK

### THE FIVE FREEDOMS GAME

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Divide participants into small groups. If possible, ensure that at least one person in each group is literate. *\*Please note that the use of this lesson plan is discretionary.*
2. Give each group a Five Freedoms game board and a set of the Five Freedoms picture cards ([See Appendix](#)).
3. Ask one person in each group to read aloud the situation described in the first box of the Five Freedoms game board; for example, he or she will read, "A student presents a paper at school which criticizes the government's involvement in a war."
4. Tell the group to discuss the situation described and select one of the five freedoms picture cards to place next to that situation on the game board; for example, the group should select the photo representing freedom of speech and place it in the corresponding box.
5. Ask the group to select the five freedoms picture cards best suited to each of the situations described on the game board.
6. When all the groups have completed the game, have the groups explain their choices and discuss any discrepancies between groups' answers. ([See Appendix for answers.](#))
7. Ask the group if they were surprised by any of the situations and discuss.

## KEY VOCABULARY

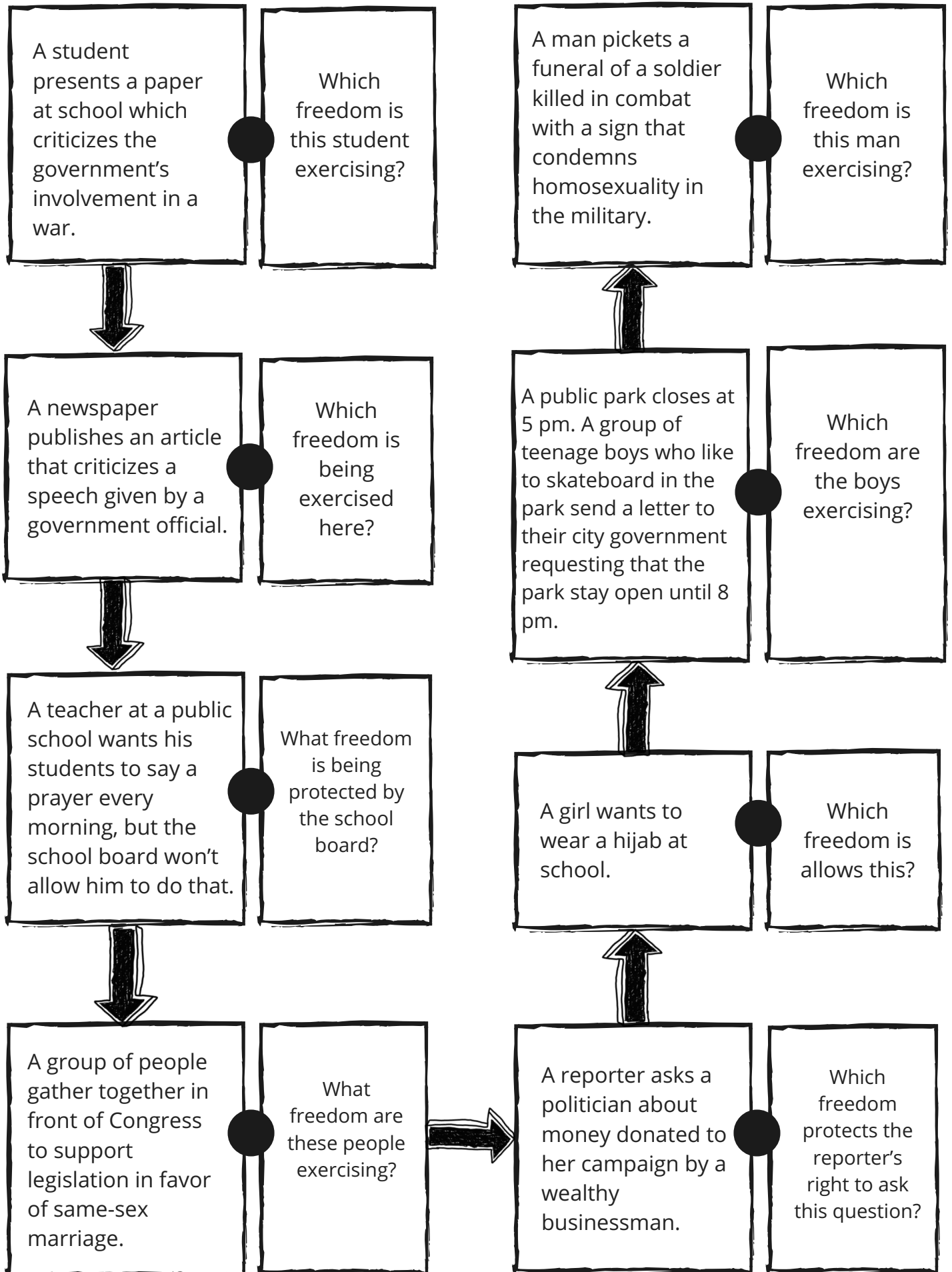
- Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Amendment
- Peaceful Assembly
- Petition
- Supreme Court

## MODIFICATIONS & TIPS

- Alternatively, for groups with low literacy, the CO provider and/or interpreter can assist by reading the cards as necessary, or the activity can be performed with the class as a whole.
- Some of the situations described in the Five Freedoms Game were taken from actual cases. The details of each case are too complex for inclusion in this lesson, but the links provided in the Appendix are intended to help CO providers better understand the correct answers.
- The Five Freedoms Game may provide a basic introduction to First Amendment concepts, and CO providers may find the Writing a Petition exercise unnecessary. Debrief questions can similarly be shortened.

# APPENDIX

## THE FIVE FREEDOMS GAME BOARD



IMAGES FOR THE FIVE FREEDOMS GAME

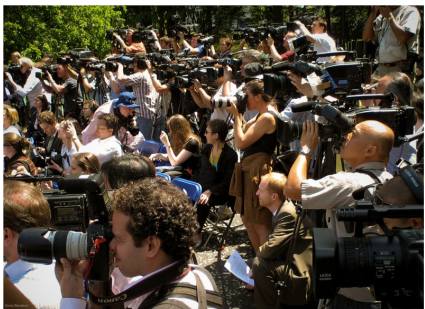
FREEDOM OF SPEECH



FREEDOM OF SPEECH



FREEDOM OF PRESS



FREEDOM TO PEACEFULLY ASSEMBLE



FREEDOM TO PEACEFULLY ASSEMBLE



FREEDOM OF PRESS



FREEDOM OF RELIGION



FREEDOM OF RELIGION



FREEDOM TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT



FREEDOM TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT



## CORRECT ANSWERS FOR THE FIVE FREEDOMS GAME

"A student presents a paper at school which criticizes the government's involvement in a war."

Answer: Freedom of Speech (**Tinker v. Des Moines**)

"A newspaper publishes an article that criticizes a speech given by a government official."

Answer: Freedom of Press

"A teacher at a public school wants his students to say a prayer every morning, but the school board won't allow him to do that."

Answer: Freedom of Religion (**Engel v. Vitale**)

"A group of people gather together in front of Congress to support legislation in favor of same-sex marriage."

Answer: Freedom to Peacefully Assemble

"A reporter asks a politician about money donated to her campaign by a wealthy businessman."

Answer: Freedom of Press

"A girl wants to wear a hijab at school."

Answer: Freedom of Religion

A public park closes at 5 pm. A group of teenage boys who like to skateboard in the park send a letter to their city government requesting that the park stay open until 8 pm."

Answer: Freedom to Petition the Government

"A man pickets a funeral of a soldier killed in combat with a sign that condemns homosexuality in the military."

(**Snyder v. Phelps**)

Answer: Freedom of Speech