

Name _____

Can the Bill of Rights Be Changed or Amended?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Bill of Rights is significant because it serves as a safeguard against government overreach and protects the fundamental rights and freedoms of American citizens. It limits the government's power by specifying what it cannot do, such as infringing on freedom of speech or religion.
2. (Answers may vary. Example: An amendment to address online privacy rights, specifying protection against unwarranted digital surveillance.)
3. A historical amendment that faced significant controversy and debate before its ratification is the 18th Amendment, which established Prohibition. It led to debates about personal freedoms, government enforcement, and the role of alcohol in society.
4. The amendment process is intentionally challenging and deliberate to ensure that changes to the Constitution are made with careful consideration and broad consensus. This safeguards the stability and enduring principles of the Constitution while preventing hasty or ill-considered changes.

