

Name _____

The Fourth Amendment: Your Shield Against Unreasonable Searches and Seizures

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Individual privacy is fundamental because it acknowledges that your personal space and belongings are your sanctuary, and government intrusion into these areas should be limited and justified to protect your rights and freedoms.
2. An example scenario justifying a search or seizure without a warrant under the Fourth Amendment could involve law enforcement responding to a hostage situation where there is an immediate threat to life, and they need to enter a building to rescue the hostages.
3. Law enforcement faces challenges in balancing the need to protect public safety and respecting Fourth Amendment rights, as they must make split-second decisions during emergencies while ensuring they have a valid basis for their actions.
4. The Fourth Amendment contributes to a system of checks and balances by establishing legal standards for searches and seizures, requiring judicial oversight, and protecting individual rights from government overreach. It ensures that government authority is exercised within the bounds of the law and the Constitution.

