**Unit 13 Test Study Guide**

**Eminent domain:** The right of the government to take private property for public use. (Fifth Amendment requires that people be paid fairly for their property.)

**Civil disobedience:** The refusal to obey certain laws as a form of political protest.

* A person participating in civil disobedience would be an example of an individual exercising a constitutional right.

**Ex post facto:** A law that makes an act a crime after the crime has been committed.

**Suffrage:** The right to vote.

**Independent judiciary:** The principle that decisions from the courts are fair and impartial and are not influenced by the other branches of government.

**Due process** of law: Procedures used to enforce the law are fair, reasonable, and just

**Voting Rights Act of 1965:** prohibits racial discrimination in voting; made literacy tests illegal; effectively ensured the right to vote for all African-Americans

**Amendment Process:**

* Step 1 (Proposal): 2/3 of each house of Congress approve a proposed amendment
* Step 2 (Ratification): ¾ of the state legislatures ratify the amendment
* *Remember: “Two-thirds of both houses, three-fourth of all states”*

**Bill of Rights:**

* The first ten amendments to the U.S. constitution that safeguard individual rights and freedoms (description of U.S. citizens’ civil liberties).
* Main purpose of the BOR is to guarantee individual freedoms against abuses of power.
* There are also limits on individual freedoms. For example, words that create a “clear and present danger” are not protected by the First Amendment.

**Five Freedoms of the First Amendment:**

* Religion, speech, press, assembly, petition
* Having a free press ensures a *more* *informed society* and has resulted in *a government more responsive to the needs of the people*
  + It is also important *to keep the government from becoming the primary information source*

*\*There will be questions that require you to analyze images, graphs, and quotes and apply the knowledge you have gained from this unit and this school year to answer correctly. Read the questions carefully and you will come to the right answer. ☺*