WHAT ARE THE FIVE (5) FREEDOMS OF THE 1ST AMENDMENT?

WORKSHEET STEPS:
1. READ the DESCRIPTION that follows each FREEDOM found in the 1st Amendment.
2. THEN READ the DEFINITION which helps to explain each FREEDOM.
3. THEN Answer the two QUESTIONS each FREEDOM’s section has by writing complete sentences on the lines provided.

* The Bill of Rights (1791) was written to apply to the national government only. In 1868, the 14th Amendment was passed which said that the states could not infringe on a citizen’s due process rights. The Supreme Court has ruled that the 14th Amendment applies to some Bill of Rights protections against state and local governments as well as the national government.

DESCRIPTION OF FREEDOM #1 OF 1ST AMENDMENT – Congress* shall make no law…respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

DEFINITION - The government cannot set up an official religion, or stop you from believing what you choose.

WHAT ARE TWO SPECIFIC WAYS A PERSON MIGHT EXERCISE THIS RIGHT? - ________________________________________

HOW WOULD LIFE BE DIFFERENT WITHOUT THIS RIGHT? Write at least two complete sentences. –

TURN OVER>>>>>>>>>
DESCRIPTION OF FREEDOM #2 OF 1ST AMENDMENT – Congress* shall make no law…abridging the freedom of speech...

DEFINITION - The government cannot stop you from expressing your thoughts using words or what is often called “symbolic speech” (ex: certain expressive actions, or pictures).

WHAT ARE TWO SPECIFIC WAYS A PERSON MIGHT EXERCISE THIS RIGHT? - 

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HOW WOULD LIFE BE DIFFERENT WITH OUT THIS RIGHT? Write at least two complete sentences. –

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DESCRIPTION OF FREEDOM #3 OF 1ST AMENDMENT – Congress* shall make no law…abridging the freedom of the press...

DEFINITION - The government cannot prevent the news media from reporting, or punish journalists for publishing true statements (or even false statements they honestly believed to be true.)

SPECIFIC WAYS A PERSON MIGHT EXERCISE THIS RIGHT - 

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HOW WOULD LIFE BE DIFFERENT WITH OUT THIS RIGHT? - 

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DESCRIPTION OF FREEDOM #4 OF 1ST AMENDMENT – Congress* shall make no law...abridging the right of the people peaceably to assemble...

DEFINITION - The government cannot stop you from holding or attending meetings in places where you have the right to be (though it can require you to get a permit in some cases, and you have no right to trespass.)

SPECIFIC WAYS A PERSON MIGHT EXERCISE THIS RIGHT - 

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HOW WOULD LIFE BE DIFFERENT WITH OUT THIS RIGHT? - 

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DESCRIPTION OF FREEDOM #5 OF 1ST AMENDMENT – Congress* shall make no law...abridging the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

DEFINITION - The government cannot stop you from circulating letters for citizens to sign (petitions) nor may it stop you from signing letters (petitions) expressing your views on a government matter.

WHAT ARE TWO SPECIFIC WAYS A PERSON MIGHT EXERCISE THIS RIGHT? - 

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HOW WOULD LIFE BE DIFFERENT WITH OUT THIS RIGHT? Write at least two complete sentences. – 

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