

## A Constitutional Logic Puzzle

Zack, Kaitlyn, DaShawn, and Mia each have a favorite U.S. Constitutional Amendment that affects their lives and future.

One likes the twenty-sixth amendment because it gives citizens the right to vote when they are 18 and this person is now 17-years old.

One likes the sixth amendment because it says people have the right to a speedy, fair trial by a jury of their peers and this person is on the school's mock trial team and wants to be a criminal defense lawyer one day.

One likes the fourth amendment because this person's family recently immigrated to the United States. This person is now a United States citizen and values privacy and the right to be secure in one's home without unwarranted government invasion. This was not the case in this person's home country.

One likes the first amendment because it gives people the right to free speech and press and this person works on the school newspaper and wants to be a TV news reporter one day.

Figure out each person's favorite constitutional amendment using the information above and the clues below.

1. Zack, Kaitlyn and DaShawn love to talk in front of others. Mia gets very nervous and avoids all public speaking activities in school.
2. Neither of the males works on the school newspaper.
3. DaShawn is the youngest in the group.
4. Mia's favorite amendment is one of the Bill of Rights.
5. Kaitlyn is 14-years old.

	First	Fourth	Sixth	Twenty-sixth
Zack	No	No	No	Yes
Kaitlyn	Yes	No	No	No
DaShawn	No	No	Yes	No
Mia	No	Yes	No	No



Answer:

The person who likes the 26th amendment is 17-years old. Kaitlyn is 14 and DaShawn is younger than her. So the 26th Amendment cannot be Kaitlyn's or DaShawn's favorite.

The person who likes the sixth amendment is on the school's mock trial team which means they do a lot of public speaking. Mia avoids all public speaking activities in school. Therefore her favorite amendment cannot be the sixth. Mia's favorite amendment also cannot be the first amendment because this person wants to be a TV news reporter—which would require public speaking.

Clue number four also indicates that Mia's favorite amendment is one of the Bill of Rights, which eliminates the 26th amendment as her favorite. This means that Mia's favorite amendment is the fourth. And this eliminates the fourth amendment from the other three students.

Zack and DaShawn (males) do not work on the school newspaper and therefore their favorite amendment cannot be the first. That leaves only the two girls and we already know Mia's favorite amendment is the fourth. Therefore, Kaitlyn's favorite amendment is the first.

Zack is the only possible person whose favorite amendment is the 26th. Which leaves DaShawn as the person whose favorite amendment is the sixth.