**Freedom of Speech Assignment**

*“Freedom of speech is a principal pillar of a free government: When this support is taken away, the constitution of a free society is dissolve.”*

* ***Benjamin Franklin***

*“Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.”*

* ***Thomas Paine***

Every American has the freedom of speech, but what does that mean to you?

Can I say whatever I want, wherever I want? Can you yell fire in a crowded theater?

Can you encourage people to resist a government law?

Does free speech just protect the things that I say and write?

Can I get rid of a fellow employee by making up stuff about them?

Can I try to sway votes by making up stuff about someone running for office?

Can I swear? Can I swear at school?

Can I say things that others find obscene, or racist?

Can I say what I need to say through a massive speaker system in the streets at 3:00 am?

Courts have determined two forms of speech that the Constitution protects, what are they?

Give an example of both.

What are the three views that the Supreme Courts have kept in mind while determining cases on freedom of Speech?

What kinds of speech are not protected?

**Freedom of Speech Court Cases**

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| **Freedom of Speech Court Cases** | **Issue** | **Precedent** |
| Schenck vs United States (1919) |  |  |
| Chaplinsky vs New Hampshire (1942) |  |  |
| Tinker vs Des Moines (1969) |  |  |
| Texas vs Johnson (1984) |  |  |
| Bethel School District vs Fraser (1986) |  |  |

So what does free speech mean? Give me your personal definition based on what you have learned.