

Neva Mellow

What Does Freedom Mean to Me?

What does freedom mean to me? Well, when I reflect upon this question, I instantly think to myself how lucky I am to live in a country where I have the right to voice my opinion, the gift of getting an education, and the blessing of knowing that I am safe. Freedom is a powerful word, and it embodies this great nation that I call home. After all, freedom is the foundation of America.

To start off, to me, freedom means being able to express myself. My first amendment rights give me the freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to petition. My rights allow me to speak my mind without fear of retaliation. Freedom to me, means having the right to share my thoughts with others.

Freedom also means feeling secure. From the previous paragraph, I mentioned that I can speak freely without being scared. Well, I can also just live my life feeling protected. For instance, I have the freedom to write down my feelings in my neon blue diary, and the ability to talk to my family about anything in my life bothering me.

Additionally, freedom means having the right to learn. I understand how privileged I am to receive an education, as in other parts of the world, many children my age have never experienced going to school. Some are denied a proper education because of gender inequalities, poverty, or because they live in a violent and unsafe environment. However, I am given the opportunity to grow and gain knowledge.

In conclusion, I am truly fortunate to live in the land of the free, as I have the right to an education, protection, and self-expression. And although I will never be able to effectively communicate how grateful I am for all of my freedoms; I understand that freedom is something many give up their life defending. It is taken for granted far too often, but it is what I consider to be, one of the most precious things of all.