

Foundations of Law and Justice

Law And Justice · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which document, signed in 1215, established the principle that everyone, including the king, is subject to the law?

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) Magna Carta**
- C) The Declaration of Independence
- D) The Napoleonic Code

2. In a court of law, what is the role of a 'plaintiff'?

- A) The person accused of a crime
- B) The individual bringing a lawsuit against another**
- C) The presiding judge
- D) The lead witness for the defense

3. What is the term for a law that is passed by a legislative body, such as a Parliament or Congress?

- A) Statute**
- B) Precedent
- C) Common Law
- D) Executive Order

4. The 'burden of proof' in a criminal trial typically rests with whom?

- A) The jury
- B) The defendant
- C) The prosecution**
- D) The judge

5. Which legal term describes a previous court decision that serves as a guide for future cases?

- A) Verdict
- B) Precedent**
- C) Habeas Corpus
- D) Affidavit

6. What is the primary function of an appellate court?

- A) To determine the guilt of a defendant
- B) To review decisions made by lower courts**
- C) To draft new legislation
- D) To settle disputes between private citizens

7. In the legal system, what does 'Habeas Corpus' literally protect against?

- A) Unlawful detention**
- B) Free speech violations
- C) Property theft
- D) Tax evasion

8. What is the highest court in the United States federal judiciary?

- A) The Court of Appeals
- B) The Supreme Court**
- C) The District Court
- D) The International Court of Justice

9. What is the term for a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime?

- A) Indictment**
- B) Subpoena
- C) Verdict
- D) Testimony

10. What is 'statutory law' primarily derived from?

- A) Judicial opinions
- B) Legislative acts**
- C) International treaties
- D) Customary traditions

11. What is the term for an agreement between two or more parties that is enforceable by law?

- A) Contract**
- B) Tort
- C) Injunction
- D) Covenant

12. In civil law, what is the 'preponderance of evidence' standard?

- A) Beyond a reasonable doubt
- B) Clear and convincing evidence
- C) More likely than not**
- D) Total certainty

13. What does the term 'pro bono' mean in a legal context?

- A) For the public good, without charge**
- B) Under strict confidentiality
- C) In the presence of a judge
- D) A violation of court protocol

14. Which branch of government is responsible for interpreting the laws?

- A) Legislative
- B) Executive
- C) Judicial**
- D) Bureaucratic

15. What is the name for a court order that requires a person to appear in court or provide evidence?

- A) Subpoena**
- B) Warrant
- C) Summons
- D) Indictment

16. What is 'common law' based on?

- A) Ancient religious texts
- B) Judicial precedent and custom**
- C) Strict executive decrees
- D) Scientific consensus

17. What does a 'not guilty' verdict in a criminal case mean?

- A) The defendant is proven innocent
- B) The prosecution failed to meet the burden of proof**
- C) The judge disagrees with the jury
- D) The case is dismissed before trial

18. What is the term for a civil wrong that causes harm to another person, resulting in legal liability?

- A) Felony
- B) Tort**
- C) Misdemeanor
- D) Injunction

19. Who is the chief law enforcement officer of the United States federal government?

- A) The Chief Justice
- B) The Attorney General**
- C) The Secretary of State
- D) The FBI Director

20. What is the legal process of questioning potential jurors for a trial called?

A) Voir dire

B) Cross-examination

C) Habeas corpus

D) Affidavit

21. In criminal law, what is a 'misdemeanor'?

A) A minor wrongdoing

B) A capital offense

C) A breach of international law

D) A civil dispute over land

22. Which document serves as the supreme law of the United States?

A) The Bill of Rights

B) The Articles of Confederation

C) The U.S. Constitution

D) The Declaration of Independence

23. What is a court order that prevents a party from performing a specific act?

A) Injunction

B) Mandamus

C) Indictment

D) Subpoena

24. What does the term 'double jeopardy' prevent?

A) Being tried twice for the same crime

B) Being forced to testify against oneself

C) Being denied a fair trial

D) Being held without bail

25. What is the function of a 'grand jury'?

A) To decide the final verdict of a trial

B) To determine if there is enough evidence to charge a suspect

C) To sentence a convicted defendant

D) To interpret constitutional law