

Foundations of Law and Justice

Law And Justice · Practice Test · 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