

Foundations of Law and Justice

Law & Justice · Answer Key · 18 Questions

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

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

2. What is the formal role of a 'jury' in a criminal trial?

- A) To write the laws
- B) To investigate the crime
- C) To decide the verdict based on evidence**
- D) To provide legal advice to the police

3. In the Australian legal system, what is the highest court in the country?

- A) The Family Court
- B) The Federal Court
- C) The Supreme Court
- D) The High Court**

4. What is the term for a law that has been formally passed by a parliament or legislative body?

- A) A statute**
- B) A precedent
- C) A regulation
- D) A decree

5. Which ancient legal code, dating back to around 1750 BCE, is famous for the 'eye for an eye' principle?

- A) The Roman Law
- B) The Napoleonic Code
- C) The Code of Hammurabi**
- D) The Twelve Tables

6. What is the primary responsibility of the 'judiciary' branch of government?

- A) To create new laws
- B) To enforce laws in the community
- C) To interpret and apply the law**
- D) To manage national taxes

7. What is a legal 'precedent' in common law systems?

- A) A rule passed by the head of state
- B) A decision by a judge that serves as a guide for future similar cases**
- C) A draft of a law being debated
- D) A police officer's written report

8. Which international organization, established in 1945, works to maintain global peace and security?

- A) The World Bank
- B) The United Nations**
- C) The Red Cross
- D) The European Union

9. What is the function of the 'prosecution' in a criminal court case?

- A) To defend the accused person
- B) To prove the defendant committed the crime**
- C) To act as a neutral mediator
- D) To record the court proceedings

10. What does the term 'habeas corpus' literally require authorities to do?

- A) Present a detained person before a court to justify their imprisonment**
- B) Provide a lawyer for everyone regardless of wealth
- C) Release all prisoners after ten years
- D) Hold trials only during daylight hours

11. Who is the person that represents the Crown in Australia at the federal level?

- A) The Prime Minister
- B) The Chief Justice
- C) The Governor-General**
- D) The Minister of Justice

12. What is the term for a serious criminal offence, such as robbery or assault, that is typically tried in a higher court?

- A) A summary offence
- B) An indictment
- C) A civil dispute
- D) An indictable offence**

13. Which branch of government is responsible for the 'executive' action of implementing and administering laws?

A) The Parliament

B) The Public Service and Ministers

C) The Supreme Court

D) The Local Council

14. What is a 'civil law' case primarily concerned with?

A) Crimes against the state

B) Disputes between individuals or organizations

C) The punishment of thieves

D) Traffic violations

15. The concept of 'burden of proof' in a criminal trial means the prosecution must prove the defendant is guilty beyond what?

A) Any doubt at all

B) A reasonable doubt

C) A majority of opinions

D) The judge's personal belief

16. What is the name of the official who acts as the head of the legal system in many jurisdictions, often managing the court system?

A) The Attorney-General

B) The Commissioner of Police

C) The Head of Parliament

D) The President of the Senate

17. In a legal context, what is a 'summons'?

A) A reward for solving a crime

B) A formal order to appear in court

C) A request to change a law

D) A document proving land ownership

18. What does the 'Rule of Law' signify in a democratic society?

A) That the leader can change laws anytime

B) That laws apply equally to all citizens and the government

C) That only the police can interpret the law

D) That laws are only for people who own property