



Francis Burt Law Education Programme

DESIGNING OUR POLITICAL AND LEGAL SYSTEM YEAR 7 STUDENT PRE-VISIT RESOURCE

1. VOCABULARY OF THE COURTS AND LAW

Instructions:

1. Think of as many words as you can with a connection to the law and the courts in Western Australia.
2. Write them down in a list and group the words alphabetically.
3. Share your list with the class.

HERE'S A START TO YOUR LIST:

A	<i>accused, appeal, affirmation,</i>
B	<i>barrister, bench,</i>
C	<i>coat of arms, court,</i>
D	
E	
F	
G	
H	
I	

J	
K	
L	
M	
N	
O	
P	
Q	
R	
S	
T	
U	
V	
W	
Y	
Z	

-

c. Rate the importance of the Magna Carta.
Low importance / Medium importance / High importance

Watch the Rule of Law Institute's [video](#) on the rule of law and complete the [worksheet](#).



4. THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION

- a. Complete the table below by reading about the Australian Constitution on the Parliamentary Education Office website: [The Australian Constitution](#)

When did the Australian Constitution come into effect?	
Did Australia exist as a country before 1901?	
What are the key features of the Australian Constitution?	
How can the Australian Constitution be changed?	

- b. Describe why the Australian Constitution is one of the most important documents in Australia?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- c. Some Western Australians would like to secede (separate) from the other Australian states and territories. What is your position on this, i.e. should Western Australia continue to be a part of Australia or should we secede (separate)? Explain with reasons.

5. SEPARATION OF POWERS

Click on the hyperlinks below to the Parliamentary Education Office website and the Supreme Court of Western Australia website and complete the tasks below.

[Separation of Powers](#) – Parliamentary Education Office

[Separation of Powers](#) – Supreme Court of Western Australia

TASKS

a. What are the three arms of government?

b. What is Parliament responsible for?

c. What is the Executive responsible for?

d. What is the Judiciary (Judges) responsible for?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

b. Which section of the Australian Constitution outlines the powers of both state and federal government?

c. What happens if there is a clash of laws between state or territory and federal governments and which sections of the Australian Constitution address these clashes?

Every court room in Australia has a coat of arms behind the judge or magistrate.

d. Which coat of arms do you think the Western Australian courts use?

e. Which coat of arms would the Federal Courts use?

f. Why do you think they use different coats of arms?

7. COURT CONDUCT

The majority of courts in Western Australia are open to the public, unless in special circumstances when the court orders otherwise. Seating is provided in the public gallery, usually at the back of the courtroom.

When entering or leaving a courtroom, it is customary to bow towards the judge. Talking, smoking or eating in court is not permitted.

The Judge is in charge of the courtroom and may order the removal of anybody who misbehaves or is dressed inappropriately. You should stand whenever a judge enters or leaves the courtroom.

Mobile telephones and all electronic equipment must be turned off before entering the courtroom. Video or other cameras or tape recorders are not permitted without the judge's permission.

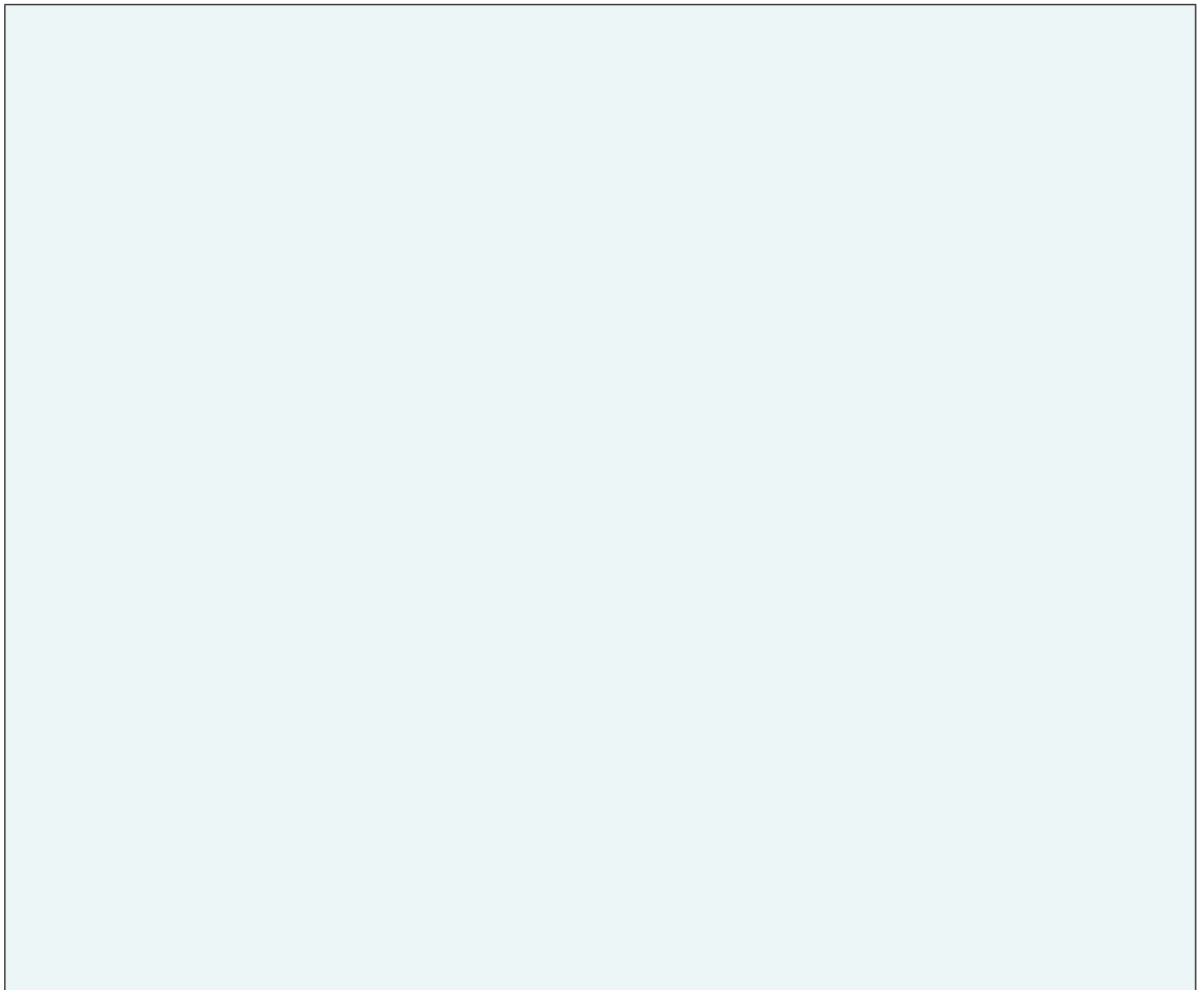
Sunglasses may not be worn on your face or on your head.

Religious headwear is permitted, but other headwear such as hats, caps, scarves etc is not permitted to be worn in the public gallery.

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS:

The Communications Officer of the Supreme Court has asked you to prepare a chart informing the general public of the rules to be observed when visiting the court as shown above.

Use icons, images and other symbols to convey your message.








8. WORD SLEUTH

Find the words listed below in the grid. They may run in any direction but are always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Circle each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell a phrase commonly used in courts.

accused
bar
bench
bullying
charge
childrens' court
crime
district court
dock
gowns
JP
judge
jury
juvenile
law
lawyer
magistrate
magistrates court
oath
prosecutor
prison
robbery
sentence
speeding
steal
supreme court
swear
wig

R	A	B	S	R	A	E	W	S	H	C	N	E	B	D	E
					G	N	I	D	E	E	P	S	C	I	C
			T	R	U	O	C	E	M	E	R	P	U	S	N
			I	G	N	I	Y	L	L	U	B	R	O	T	E
M	A	G	I	S	T	R	A	T	E	S	C	O	U	R	T
L			L				L	I	P	T	S	U	I	N	
A		J	E				A		J	H	E	R	C	E	
W	J	U	D	G	E		D	E	S	U	C	C	A	T	S
Y	U	V	S	N	W	O	G	T	N		E	U	T	C	Y
E	R	E	N	M	A	G	I	S	T	R	A	T	E	O	R
R	Y	N	C	N	O	S	I	R	P	K	C	O	D	U	E
C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	S	C	O	U	R	T	R	B
W	L	L	E	M	I	R	C						T	B	
I	A	E	G	R	A	H	C							O	
G	W		E	H	T	A	O							R	

Legal Phrase: _____



9. POINTS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Think about the correct answers to the points below before you visit the Francis Burt Law Education Programme. You will review your answers after your visit.

Instructions:		
Read each of the following statements and circle True or False.		
a. The accused person must prove to the court that she/he is not guilty of the crime.	True	False
b. The judge decides if an accused person is guilty or not guilty for serious charges.	True	False
c. An accused person is thought to be innocent until proven guilty.	True	False
d. Jury duty is a responsibility of everyone who can vote in Western Australia except in special situations and except for people in special types of jobs.	True	False
e. You have the right to trial by jury if you are accused of a serious crime in Western Australia.	True	False
f. The law for the Queen and the Prime Minister is different to the law for everyone else.	True	False
g. The government can remove a judge from his/her position at any time.	True	False
h. The Australian Constitution is the set of rules by which Australia is governed. It defines what laws the Commonwealth Government is responsible for and what laws the State Governments are responsible for.	True	False



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