

Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

NOTES

The purpose of this activity is for students to generate background information for the study of justice and to prepare them for one of the Discovering Justice programs: a tour of a courthouse, a conversation with a legal professional, or a dramatic performance.

- ★ This activity should take one and a half class periods: one to do the hunt and a half (or less) to go over the correct answers.
- ★ Supplies: One copy of the Scavenger Hunt for each team for the actual “hunt” and a fresh one for each student so that he/she can write in the correct answers to use as a reference; pens and/or pencils.
- ★ Please remind the students that some of the questions have more than one part. Completeness as well as correctness counts towards the final score.
- ★ If several teams turn in their results at the same time, it may be helpful to differentiate the sheets as you collect them with an additional notation such as 10:15a, 10:15b, 10:15c, etc.
- ★ When scoring the results, partial credit may be given for correct yet incomplete answers. Use your own judgment and background knowledge when comparing student responses to the answer sheet.
- ★ A brief summary of the Bill of Rights is attached to the answer sheet to assist with question #11.

The prize for the winning team is at your discretion.

Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

★ Use library resources (books & internet) to answer the following questions.

★ Write the answers in the question box.

The time each sheet is turned in will be written on top.

The team that finishes first with the most correct *and* complete answers wins.

1. What was the first ancient Greek city-state to have a democratic government?

2. What was the *Magna Carta*?

3. Give one reason why the *Magna Carta* was relevant to our government and/or justice system.

4. Define *government*.

5. Define *democracy*.

6. List the three branches of the federal government, and provide an example of a job that belongs to each branch.

7. Define *republic*.

8. Who wrote, "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed"? In what document?

Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

Page 2

9. Define *constitution*.

10. What is “The Bill of Rights”?

11. List three examples of rights or freedoms from “The Bill of Rights” and give a real-life example for each one. Examples can come from your own personal experience, a book, movie, television program, or the news.

12. How did the American colonists’ complaint of “Taxation without representation!” affect the way **tax** bills are introduced today in Congress?

13. What is one freedom the American colonists **did not** have that they put into the United States Constitution. (This answer must be different from the tax example in #12.)

14. Define *justice*.

15. List 3 jobs that are part of the United States legal system and explain the responsibilities of each one. (*Hint: Not all of the jobs are paid work.*)



Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

Page 3

16. Define *impartial*.

17. Define *civil court case*.

18. Give an example of a problem that could become a civil court case.

19. Define *criminal court case*.

20. Give an example of an action that could become a criminal court case.

21. Who said we are a “government of the people...by the people...for the people”? In what text?

22. Describe a real-life example of the phrase in #21. The example can come from your own personal experience or a situation from a book, movie, television program, or the news.

Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

ANSWERS

1. Athens
2. Document written in 1215 that limited the rights of the King and established certain rights for citizens
3. Head of country bound by law / head of country to respect certain legal procedures / prevented unlawful imprisonment through *habeas corpus* / eventually led to establishment of constitutional law / established basis for common law principles
4. The organization, machinery, or agency through which a political unit exercises authority and performs functions / usually classified according to the distribution of power within it
5. A government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections
6. Executive – president, vice-president, cabinet secretaries / Judicial – judges, law clerks, court clerks / Legislative – congressmen and senators
7. A government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law
8. Thomas Jefferson / Declaration of Independence
9. A written instrument embodying the rules of a political or social organization / the basic principles and laws of a nation, state, or social group that determine the powers and duties of the government and guarantee certain rights to the people in it
10. The first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution designed to protect individuals from the power of the central government
11. Freedom of speech – It is NOT illegal to burn the flag. / freedom of religion – I can belong to any religion or NO religion. There is no official U.S. religion. / right to bear arms – It is hard to get gun control laws passed. / freedom from unreasonable search – Police must get a warrant from a judge to search a person’s house. (See Bill of Rights Summary for other ideas.)
12. In the original Constitution, senators were elected by the state legislatures, and members of the House of Representatives were elected directly by the people. Therefore, in order to avoid ‘taxation without representation,’ only the House, the directly elected body, may propose tax legislation even though either the House or the Senate may introduce other types of bills..



Activity I.

The Search for Justice Scavenger Hunt

ANSWERS Page 2

13. Freedom to choose their own government / freedom from an obligation to quarter (house) soldiers / freedom to speak out against the government (+ any other answers you know)
14. The administration of what is fair / often involves the impartial adjustment of conflicting claims or the assignment of suitable or deserved rewards or punishments/ the resolution of conflicts and the enforcement of law in a fair and impartial manner
15. Judge – decides questions of law brought before a court / Juror – serves on a panel of people sworn to give a verdict in a trial / Attorney – represents another on legal matters and brings suits, charges people with crimes, defends people against suits and crimes / Witness — provides testimony in a trial / Court Clerk — schedules trials and swears in witnesses
16. Treating or affecting all equally
17. A case that in which people ask the court to solve a problem between them. The solution often involves one party (person or group) paying damages (money) to the other or being ordered to stop doing whatever was bothering the wronged party.
18. Patent infringement: An Israeli company claimed that Boston Scientific had stolen its patent for cardiac stents. / liability: Your tree fell on my car. / contract: You promised to pay me to cut your lawn, and now you refuse to honor that promise.
19. A lawsuit brought by a prosecutor employed by the federal, state, or local government that charges a person with the commission of a crime
20. Armed robbery / driving while intoxicated / murder / embezzlement (stealing money from one’s employer) / kidnapping / downloading and recording copyrighted music without paying for it.
21. Abraham Lincoln / The Gettysburg Address
22. “of the people” – We write our own laws. We choose our own government leaders.

“by the people” — We have to keep voting. Anyone can run for office. Candidates don’t have to own property or be born into a certain family.

“for the people” — The armed forces protect us from enemies. Government programs like Medicare and Social Security help old people take care of themselves.