



# Law Merit

1. Write a report of at least 350 words in which you define *law*. Describe how local, state, federal, and international laws differ and each type's purpose.
2. Define the following terms from a biblical perspective.
  - a. Law
  - b. The purpose of the Ten Commandments
  - c. Christ's words "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (Matthew 5:17).
3. List the name of your state's attorney general and at least six duties of that office.
4. Write a brief description of at least ten different areas or specialties of legal practice provided in the following list:
 

a. Antitrust	h. Intellectual property
b. Corporate	i. International
c. Criminal law	j. Labor law
d. Domestic relations	k. Personal injury
e. Estate planning	l. Real estate
f. Immigration and naturalization	m. Tax
g. Insurance	n. General business
5. Attend a court session (criminal or civil case) conducted in your community. Write a report of at least 250 words describing your observations of the jury selection process, the opening remarks of the case, the process of the trial, the closing statements of the prosecuting and defending lawyers, and the results of the trial.
6. Choose one of the law specialties from Requirement 4 that most interests you. Schedule a thirty-minute interview appointment with an attorney in that specialty. Be sure the attorney understands the purpose of your visit prior to the actual appointment. Write a report summarizing the attorney's responses to the following suggested questions:

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- a. What do you like best about your job?
  - b. How is the job rewarding? How is the job frustrating?
  - c. What is your responsibility to your clients?
  - d. Are you part of a law firm, a corporation, or do you work independently?  
Why did you choose this setting?
  - e. What is your normal caseload for a week? For a month?
  - f. How much time is spent in the courtroom (if applicable)?
  - g. If the attorney is a Christian, ask how being a Christian affects the job.
  - h. What are the educational requirements for your area of law specialty?
  - i. Ask any other questions that you may have written down prior to the visit.
- Keep the visit no longer than thirty minutes.

7. Define these legal terms:

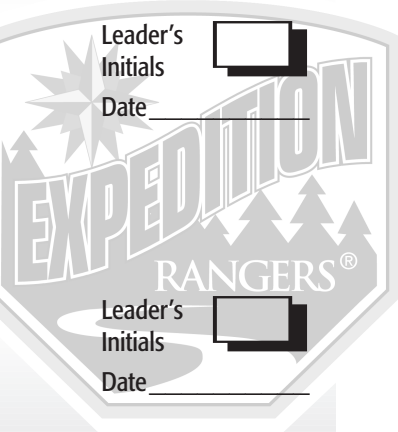
- a. Defendant
- b. Plaintiff
- c. Acquittal process
- d. Writ of habeas corpus
- e. Court of Appeals
- f. Miranda warning
- g. Justinian Code
- h. Article five of the Bill of Rights (fifth amendment)
- i. Article six of the Bill of Rights (sixth amendment)
- j. Magna Carta
- k. Code of Hammurabi
- l. Double jeopardy

8. Complete the following regarding the U.S. jury system.

- a. Explain how a jury is selected.
- b. Describe the duties of jurors in civil and criminal cases.
- c. Indicate if jury verdicts have to be unanimous and explain.
- d. Define the term *hung jury*.

9. Write a report of at least 250 words about two famous trials in history. For each trial, cite the case, the purpose of the case, its outcome, and how it has established precedence for other cases.

10. Describe the Supreme Court of the United States and its basic function. Indicate the number of justices on the court, how they are selected, and their term of office.



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