

Law and Criminal Justice

Writing Ideas

1. After watching the video, summarize three key ideas that you learned. (3-12)
2. After watching the video, did you learn things that didn't fit with what you thought criminal justice was like or what you already knew reinforced? Do you have new insights into the law? Write two paragraphs to answer these questions. (5-12)
3. Define the legal word **precedent**. Explain why this is important in criminal justice. (4-12)
4. Write an opinion describing why peaceful resolution of disputes is (or is not) preferable to going to court. (3-8)
5. Research why you should not (or should) represent your self in a legal proceeding. (9-12)
6. Describe what happens when individuals fail to carry out their personal responsibilities in their communities. (3-12)
7. Pretend you are a public defender, defending someone you believe is guilty. Write four journal entries of the public defender as he/she is working on this person's case. (6-12)
8. Summarize the facts of the Miranda v. Arizona case. Explain the legal issues and summarize what has happened since this case. (9-12)
9. Summarize the **Exclusionary Rule**. (6-12)
10. Explain the ruling of the Gideon v. Wainwright case and how it has changed the legal system. (6-12)
11. Pick a law that specifically affects citizens between the ages of 18-21 (examples: alcohol use, serve on a jury, get married, sue someone, register for service). Argue for the age to be changed. (6-12)
12. Write a narrative about being accused of a crime you didn't commit and what happens to you. (6-12)
13. Pretend you are a lawyer in a high-profile case that may determine the direction our country goes for the next 50 years. What might the case be and how would you argue it? ((6-12)
14. Describe how you would explain the legal system to a 1st grader. (4-12)

15. Summarize 5 rights and five things that are not rights of U.S. citizens. (3-6)
16. Rewrite the bill of Rights in your own words. Explain what would happen if one of these rights was suddenly taken away. (3-8)
17. Write an opinion piece that explains whether the constitution is (or is not) still relevant today. (9-12)
18. Pretend you were a reporter in the 1700s when the constitution was being written. Report about the events surrounding the ratification of it. (9-12)