Practice Test

Law & the Courts
1. United States Supreme Court

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Which court correctly completes the diagram above?

A. United States Court of Records
B. United States Court of Appeals
C. United States Superior Court
D. United States Civil Court

2. Members of the U.S. Supreme Court are appointed by _______________. These appointments are approved by ________________.

A. The Senate; the President
B. The President; the Senate
C. The People; the Senate
D. The Senate; the People

3. A group of people brought together to decide if there is enough evidence to indict someone for committing a crime can be described as what?

A. Supreme Court
B. Grand Jury
C. Petit Jury
D. Parliament

4. A defendant is convicted of a crime in the North Carolina Superior Court. However, he claims that during the trial, the judge allowed evidence that should not have been admitted. His appeal will MOST likely first be heard in which court?

A. US Supreme Court
B. NC Court of Appeals
C. US Court of Appeals
D. NC Supreme Court

5. Laura has been arrested and charged with a federal crime. Which of the following statements is true regarding Laura’s case?

A. The state Superior Court will exercise original jurisdiction over the case, however, if Laura appeals, the case will go to federal court.
B. The US Court of Appeals will have original jurisdiction, but if Laura appeals, it will then go to the US Supreme Court.
C. There is no way the US Supreme Court could ever hear Laura’s case because it does not involve a matter of constitutional law.
D. The US District Court has original jurisdiction over the case with the US Court of Appeals and possibly the US Supreme Court exercising appellate jurisdiction.
6. Which is NOT an example of an issue that might warrant the filing of a civil case?

A. The individual believes another party has not fulfilled the terms of a contract
B. The individual suffered damage due to the negligence of another
C. The individual wants to get a divorce
D. The individual was robbed at gunpoint

7. What does “innocent until proven guilty” mean in a court of law?

A. The accused must prove his innocence.
B. The trial must be held quickly.
C. The burden of proof is on the predecessor.
D. The state must have DNA evidence to prove guilt.

8. A process in which a defendant agrees to plead guilty to a lesser crime or accept a guarantee of less severe punishment for the crime with which they are currently charged in exchange for pleading “guilty” is called what?

A. An arraignment
B. Issue of Law
C. Plea Bargaining
D. Settlement

9. Law enforcement officials must have which of the following to make an arrest?

A. Search warrant or an indictment
B. Probable cause or an arrest warrant
C. Writ of certiorari or an issue of fact
D. Complaint or an issue of law

10. What is the proper order of the grand jury and the petit jury in the judicial process?

A. The petit jury comes before the grand jury.
B. The grand jury comes before the petit jury.
C. The grand jury is for capital offenses only.
D. The grand jury and the petit jury hear the case at the same time.

11. Juan earned a degree in psychology while in prison and upon his release opened a counseling center for troubled teens. Which goal of punishment was most successful in Juan’s case?

A. Deterrence
B. Rehabilitation
C. Restitution
D. Retribution
12. Which of the following examples best illustrates aggravating circumstances?

A. A woman convicted of murder is known to have a mental disability
B. A man murdered his wife and disposed of her body in a gruesome way
C. A juvenile commits a crime and is tried as an adult
D. A man murders his father after he endures a history of abuse

13. When sentencing juveniles, what is the ultimate goal?

A. Deterrence
B. Rehabilitation
C. Restitution
D. Retribution

14. Which law enforcement agency would protect the President during an assassination attempt?

A. The Secret Service
B. The Federal Bureau of Investigation
C. The National Guard
D. State Troopers

15. Police officers do not decide if a person is guilty or not. Which of the following also represents an action they are not responsible for?

A. Protect life and property
B. Maintain peace and order
C. Plea bargain
D. Arrest people who violate the law

16. Which of the following viewpoints is most similar to the message the cartoonist is conveying?

A. Crime is rampant in the country.
B. Crime is a perfectly acceptable career choice.
C. The actions of individuals in the Government and Private sectors has been immoral and commonplace.
D. The actions of individuals in the government and private sectors inspires children to behave in a criminal fashion.
Answer Key

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. D
6. D
7. C
8. C
9. B
10. B
11. B
12. B
13. B
14. A
15. C
16. C