

Lesson Quiz 14-1



The Supreme Court of the United States

DIRECTIONS: True/False In the blank, indicate whether the statement is true (T) or false (F).

- _____ 1. In one of the Federalist papers, Alexander Hamilton argued that the Supreme Court should have the right to determine whether laws are constitutional.
- _____ 2. The Supreme Court's primary function is to settle disputes among the states.
- _____ 3. The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in those cases involving representatives of foreign governments.
- _____ 4. When considering what cases to hear, the Supreme Court often chooses those in which courts have interpreted federal laws differently.
- _____ 5. The Supreme Court took on the case of Clarence Gideon in order to determine whether his constitutional rights had been violated.

DIRECTIONS: Multiple Choice Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 6. In *Marbury v. Madison*, Chief Justice John Marshall helped establish
 - A. that the federal government had the right to regulate interstate commerce.
 - B. that the Supreme Court could hear only original jurisdiction cases.
 - C. the importance of the federal government in protecting individual rights.
 - D. the Supreme Court's power to declare laws unconstitutional.
- _____ 7. What is the purpose of the rule of four?
 - A. to allow a losing party to appeal a case
 - B. to determine whether the Supreme Court will hear a case
 - C. to make certain that federal laws are applied uniformly throughout the country
 - D. to protect individual liberties under the Bill of Rights
- _____ 8. The losing party in a state Supreme Court case can appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court by submitting
 - A. a brief.
 - B. a petition for a writ of certiorari.
 - C. a rule of four document.
 - D. an advisory opinion.
- _____ 9. Appellate cases
 - A. always involve original jurisdiction.
 - B. are the least common type of cases that the Supreme Court hears.
 - C. can come either through the state court systems or the federal court system.
 - D. typically involve individuals stating that their constitutional rights have been violated.
- _____ 10. In which case did the Supreme Court rule that states could not interfere with federal actions that were necessary to carry out the federal government's constitutional powers?
 - A. *Gideon v. Wainwright*
 - B. *Marbury v. Madison*
 - C. *McCulloch v. Maryland*
 - D. *Plessy v. Ferguson*

Lesson Quiz 14-2



The Supreme Court of the United States

DIRECTIONS: True/False In the blank, indicate whether the statement is true (T) or false (F).

- _____ 1. When hearing a case, the Supreme Court does not hear testimony from witnesses.
- _____ 2. If a justice disagrees with a decision, he or she can issue a concurring opinion.
- _____ 3. If an interest group wants to explain to the Supreme Court why a case should be decided in a particular way, the group can submit a writ of certiorari.
- _____ 4. *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* illustrates how the Supreme Court can be influenced by changing societal values and beliefs.
- _____ 5. By assigning a southerner to write the Court's opinion for a voter discrimination case, the Supreme Court demonstrated its awareness of public opinion.

DIRECTIONS: Multiple Choice Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 6. The Supreme Court decides to take a case when it
 - A. grants certiorari.
 - B. hears the oral arguments.
 - C. issues an opinion.
 - D. takes a preliminary vote.
- _____ 7. If a justice agrees with the majority's opinion, but has different reasoning, he or she may issue a
 - A. concurring opinion.
 - B. dissenting opinion.
 - C. minority opinion.
 - D. unanimous ruling.
- _____ 8. One reason that the justices take a preliminary vote is to
 - A. allow the parties more time to present their arguments.
 - B. decide whether or not they want to rule on the case.
 - C. discuss their reasoning.
 - D. listen to the opinions of special interest groups.
- _____ 9. Once the Supreme Court reaches a decision in a case,
 - A. each side can present its case to the justices.
 - B. the decision becomes law.
 - C. the decision can be appealed.
 - D. the solicitor general can state an opinion.
- _____ 10. President Andrew Jackson's refusal to carry out a Court ruling shows that
 - A. the Supreme Court depends on the executive branch to enforce its decisions.
 - B. the Supreme Court depends on the voters to support its decisions.
 - C. well-reasoned oral arguments are vital to winning a case.
 - D. without the support of the legislature, Supreme Court decisions can be overturned.

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Lesson Quiz 14-3

The logo for 'networks' features the word in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of a network, consisting of several lines radiating from a central point, resembling a starburst or a web.

The Supreme Court of the United States

DIRECTIONS: True/False In the blank, indicate whether the statement is true (T) or false (F).

- _____ 1. The Constitution says that a Supreme Court justice must be at least 35 years of age.
- _____ 2. The president nominates Supreme Court justices, but the Senate elects other federal judges.
- _____ 3. Confirmation of Supreme Court nominees typically takes longer today than in the past.
- _____ 4. Today's justices are more representative of the country as a whole than in the past.
- _____ 5. Because of broad media coverage, a justice's confirmation is no longer contentious.

DIRECTIONS: Multiple Choice Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 6. The Constitution requires that a Supreme Court justice
- A. be confirmed by the Senate.
 - B. represent the people.
 - C. be an experienced lawyer.
 - D. have U.S. citizenship.
- _____ 7. How is the process for filling a Senate position different from the process for filling a Supreme Court position?
- A. Senators are appointed by the Supreme Court whereas justices are elected by the people.
 - B. Senators are elected by the legislature whereas justices are nominated by the president.
 - C. Senators are elected by the people whereas justices are nominated by the president.
 - D. Senators are nominated by the president whereas justices are elected by the legislature.
- _____ 8. Presidents typically work to nominate individuals who
- A. have different ideological perspectives than the president.
 - B. have extensive experience as trial lawyers.
 - C. have personal integrity and professional expertise.
 - D. will require an extensive confirmation process.
- _____ 9. Why do presidents want nominees from a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds?
- A. They want to simplify the justices' decision-making processes.
 - B. They think these individuals will be easier to confirm.
 - C. They think these individuals will have a better educational background.
 - D. They want the justices to be somewhat representative of the entire country.
- _____ 10. A positive effect of justices' lifetime appointments is
- A. being accountable to the people.
 - B. eliminating the risk of impeachment.
 - C. having a fair and impartial judiciary.
 - D. stabilizing the interpretation of laws.

Lesson Quiz 14-4



The Supreme Court of the United States

DIRECTIONS: Matching Match each item with the correct statement below.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| _____ 1. ideas about what guidelines to follow when interpreting the Constitution | A. judicial restraint |
| _____ 2. belief that the Court should avoid overturning laws passed by democratically elected bodies | B. judicial philosophy |
| _____ 3. belief that the Court should step in if people's rights are violated | C. stare decisis |
| _____ 4. principle that once the Court rules, its decision serves as a precedent | D. "living" constitution |
| _____ 5. belief that judges should apply the Constitution in light of current conditions | E. judicial activism |

DIRECTIONS: Multiple Choice Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 6. If citizens do not like how the Supreme Court interprets part of the Constitution, they can
- A. encourage other citizens to vote the justices out of office.
 - B. encourage their legislators to remove the justices from the Court.
 - C. petition the Supreme Court to change its ruling.
 - D. work to get the Constitution amended.
- _____ 7. How is a justice who follows judicial restraint likely to be different from an activist?
- A. The justice is less likely to declare an existing law unconstitutional.
 - B. The justice is less likely to stand on precedent.
 - C. The justice is less likely to support the principle of stare decisis.
 - D. The justice is more likely to believe the Constitution is a "living" document.
- _____ 8. A pivotal civil liberties case in which the Court was not bound by precedent was
- | | |
|--|---|
| A. <i>Betts v. Brady.</i> | C. <i>Plessy v. Ferguson.</i> |
| B. <i>Brown v. Board of Education.</i> | D. <i>Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce.</i> |
- _____ 9. When the Court ruled in *Brandenburg v. Ohio* that the government could not take away the right to free speech just because it might incite a crime, it was
- | | |
|---|---|
| A. confirming an established precedent. | C. showing judicial restraint. |
| B. showing judicial activism. | D. supporting the principle of stare decisis. |
- _____ 10. The legislative branch can check the power of the Supreme Court because it
- | | |
|---|--|
| A. can remove justices. | C. determines when a precedent has been set. |
| B. decides which cases the Court hears. | D. nominates justices. |

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