



On-Line Tutorial for Distance Learning

Instructions: Use this note-taking document with the Florida Students on-line tutorial, so students can take notes as they watch the tutorial.

This covers Sunshine State Standard: SS.7.C.1.9

Understanding the Rule of Law - Online Tutorial

Log on to floridastudents.org. Click on the Social Studies icon, then choose Civics. Find the tutorial titled “Understanding the Rule of Law” in Standard SS.7.C.1.9. Take notes as you move through the tutorial.

Reviewing Prior Knowledge:

Laws are rules that a country of community establishes to regulate the actions (behaviors) of its members. Laws exist to protect people, their property, and their freedom. There are penalties/consequences for breaking laws. In the US, the people are the source of all laws because the people choose the lawmakers. Laws can be federal, state or local, and you have to follow the laws at all three levels!

Who must follow laws?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

What does Rule of Law mean?

1. No one is _____ the law
2. Everyone is _____ under the law
3. Laws apply _____ to everyone
4. All are entitled to equal _____ of the law
5. All have equal _____ to uphold the law

Principles of Rule of Law

Accountability - *all people* (regular citizens & public officials) are _____ for their _____

Due Process – a set of _____ legal rights based on established _____ that must be _____

Consistent application of law – every person should be treated the _____ by the legal system

Enforcement – once established, _____ have a duty to effectively _____ laws to prevent crime

Transparency – open to public view, trials take place in _____ and become public record, laws are _____ to all

What If Rule of Law Didn't Exist?

Repressive governments might not give citizens _____ in the lawmaking process.

_____ might arrest people for arbitrary reasons or to make someone “disappear”

You might live in _____ of arrest for unknown causes

If arrested, you would have _____ of a public trial by a jury

Different set of _____ standards might apply to _____, _____, _____

Case Study: Richard Nixon (you will study this case in depth in another lesson)

President Nixon served from 1969 – 1974 (Republican)

In 1972, 5 burglars were caught breaking into the _____ Campaign HQ in the Watergate complex

No evidence was found that Nixon ordered the break-in, but evidence showed he attempted to _____

President Nixon used his powers to _____ the investigation. Investigation uncovered other criminal behavior.

Nixon had audio tapes of his White House conversations that the special prosecutor wanted. Nixon refused to turn over those tapes and claimed _____. The Supreme Court _____ with

Nixon and ruled _____ that the tapes must be _____. Nixon _____.

By ruling _____ Nixon, the Supreme Court _____ the principal of _____.

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Reviewing Prior Knowledge:

Laws are rules that a country of community establishes to regulate the actions (behaviors) of its members

Laws exist to protect people, their property, and their freedom. There are penalties/consequences for breaking laws.

Un the US, the people are the source of all laws because the people choose the lawmakers. Laws can be federal, state or local, and you have to follow the laws at all three levels!

Who must follow laws?

1. Citizens
2. Lawmakers
3. Lawyers, judges
4. Law Enforcement
5. The President

What does Rule of Law mean?

1. No one is ___above___ the law
2. Everyone is ___equal___ under the law
3. Laws apply ___equally___ to everyone
4. All are entitled to equal ___protection___ of the law
5. All have equal ___responsibility___ to uphold the law

Principles of Rule of Law

Accountability - *all people* (regular citizens & public officials) are ___legally___ ___responsible___ for their ___actions___

Due Process – a set of ___consistent___ legal rights based on established ___rules___ that must be ___respected___

Consistent application of law – every person should be treated the ___same___ by the legal system

Enforcement – once established, ___governments___ have a duty to effectively ___enforce___ laws to prevent crime

Transparency – open to public view, trials take place in ___public___ and become public record, laws are ___known___ to all

What If Rule of Law Didn't Exist?

Repressive governments might not give citizens ___a___ ___say___ in the lawmaking process.

___Police___ might arrest people for arbitrary reasons or to make someone “disappear”

You might live in ___fear___ of arrest for unknown causes

If arrested, you would have ___no___ ___guarantee___ of a public trial by a jury

Different set of ___legal___ standards might apply to ___leaders___, ___wealthy___, ___influential___

Case Study: Richard Nixon (you will study this case in depth in another lesson)

President Nixon served from 1969 – 1974 (Republican)

In 1972, 5 burglars were caught breaking into the ___Democratic___ Campaign HQ in the Watergate complex

No evidence was found that Nixon ordered the break-in, but evidence showed he attempted to ___cover it up___

President Nixon used his powers to ___block___ the investigation. Investigation uncovered other criminal behavior.

Nixon had audio tapes of his White House conversations that the special prosecutor wanted. Nixon refused to turn over those tapes and claimed ___executive___ ___privilege___ . The Supreme Court ___disagreed___ with Nixon and ruled ___unanimously___ that the tapes must be ___surrendered___ . Nixon ___resigned___ .

By ruling ___against___ Nixon, the Supreme Court ___upheld___ the principal of ___Rule of Law___ .