



Fundamentals of the Law

Listening Package



Listening Package

Fundamentals of the Law

Lesson Objectives

- Identify constitutional rights and freedoms
- Identify social and civic responsibilities
- Know where to find more information about the fundamentals of Canadian law

Instructions for the Teacher

This listening package supports the video available in the Law-Related ESL Lessons Module: Fundamentals of the Law available at www.wiki.clicklaw.bc.ca.

The following listening tasks have been modelled on the *CLB 7-10 Exit Assessment Tasks* that CLB 7/8 students take to progress or exit their programs. You may choose to use the tasks in a variety of ways:

- **As a practice test**
 - do not allow dictionaries or other supports
 - give each student a copy of the listening task
 - read the instructions
 - play the video twice through without stopping, pausing for 30 seconds between viewing
 - gather the tests and score them
- **As listening skills development**
 - generate interest and activate prior knowledge
 - set a gist task (Who? Relationship? Mood?)
 - watch, confer with small groups
 - watch, stop, predict, confirm
 - give listening tasks (below)
 - watch, confer with small groups
 - discuss content of videos
 - role play a related workplace situation
- **As self-study**
 - assign as in-class, online or at home work

Video Script

Rob: Hi, I'm Rob McAninch, Director of Justice Theatre at the People's Law School. One of my jobs as the director is to play the judge in live theatre performances. I'm here today to introduce you to some of the people you would meet in the court room and let them tell you what they do.

Camera moves to Actor 1 - Prosecutor

Actor 1: My name is Gerry South, I am the Crown prosecutor. It is my role to present the evidence against the person on trial to the jury. In a Canadian criminal trial, it is up the Crown Prosecutor to prove the guilt of the accused beyond a reasonable doubt.

Camera moves to Actor 2 – Defense

Actor 2: I'm Zara Daroni, I am the defense lawyer for the accused, he is charged with the crime of assault. My role is to make sure the accused receives a fair trial. Since the Crown Prosecutor must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, I will question whether the evidence provided does prove the guilt of the accused. If I have evidence which can demonstrate the innocence of the accused, I will present that evidence.

Camera moves to Actor 3 - Witness

Actor 3: My name is Michael and I'm the witness in the courtroom today. I'm here to testify for my friend. It is my responsibility to tell the court what I know about the events that occurred. Before I give testimony, I must swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. In Canada it is a lie when giving evidence during a trial.

Rob: A Crown Prosecutor, the Defense, the Accused and a Witness. We all have an important role to play in a Canadian trial. My job as Judge, is to make sure that the rules of the law are followed during the trial and I will decide the punishment if the accused is found guilty. It will be up the jury to hear the evidence and it will be up the jury to decide the verdict. If we are going to have a verdict all 12 members of the jury must agree. You may come into the courtroom as a visitor, a witness or the accused. If you are visitor come in and take a seat. Be sure to be quiet so you won't disrupt the trial. If you are a witness, you must wait out in the courtroom lobby until you are called in when it's your turn to give evidence. If you are the accused, you will in the courtroom during entire time the trial.

Listening Tasks

Fundamentals of the Law: An Orientation to the Courts

TASK A

You will watch a video featuring the main people you would meet in a courtroom. You will watch the video twice. As you watch, answer the questions. You have 30 seconds to read the questions before you listen.

Instructions: Circle the correct answer or fill in the blanks for each question or statement.

Score: /6

Questions

1. What are the main roles mentioned in the video?

2. What does the crown prosecutor do?

- a) Defends the person on trial.
- b) Attempts to prove the person on trial is guilty.
- c) Decides on the punishment for the accused.

3. The defense lawyer _____.

- a) sits in the prisoner's box during the trial.
- b) chooses the jury members.
- c) questions the evidence of the crown prosecutor.

4. The judge makes sure _____.

- a) the jury members are welcomed.
- b) the rules of the law are followed.
- c) the visitors have clear instructions.

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5. The _____ decides the punishment for the accused.
- a) crown prosecutor
 - b) jury
 - c) judge
6. _____ of the members of the jury must agree before a verdict can be reached.
- a) The majority
 - b) All
 - c) More than 50 %

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TASK B

Instructions: Complete the chart by checking the responsibilities that match the roles of each person in the court.

Score: /12

	judge	crown prosecutor	defense lawyer	witness	jury
defends the accused					
decides on the punishment for the accused					
tries to prove the accused guilty					
makes sure the accused gets a fair trial					
tells the court what he/she knows about the case					
listens to all of the evidence in order to make a decision about the case					
presents all evidence that proves the accused is innocent					
discusses the case and comes to an agreement on whether or not the accused is guilty					
swears to tell the truth					
makes sure the jury understands instructions					
waits in the lobby until called in					
makes sure the rules of the law are followed during the trial					

Listening Tasks: Answer Key

TASK A

Instructions: Circle the correct answer or fill in the blanks for each question or statement.

Score:

Questions

1. What are the main roles that are mentioned in the video? _____
judge, crown prosecutor, defense lawyer, witness, jury
2. What does the crown prosecutor do?
 - a) Defends the person on trial.
 - b) Attempts to prove the person on trial is guilty.**
 - c) Decides on the punishment for the accused.
3. The defense lawyer _____.
 - a) sits in the prisoner's box during the trial.
 - b) chooses the jury members.
 - c) questions the evidence of the crown prosecutor.**
4. The judge makes sure _____.
 - a) the jury members are welcomed.
 - b) the rules of the law are followed.**
 - c) the visitors have clear instructions.
5. The _____ decides the punishment for the accused.
 - a) crown prosecutor
 - b) jury
 - c) judge**
6. _____ of the members of the jury must agree before a verdict can be reached.
 - a) The majority
 - b) All**
 - c) More than 50 %

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TASK B

Instructions: Complete the chart by checking the responsibilities that match the roles of each person in the court.

Score:

	judge	crown prosecutor	defense lawyer	witness	jury
defends the accused			✓		
decides on the punishment for the accused	✓				
tries to prove the accused guilty		✓			
makes sure the accused gets a fair trial	✓				
tells the court what he/she knows about the case				✓	
listens to all of the evidence in order to make a decision about the case					✓
presents all evidence that proves the accused is innocent			✓		
discusses the case and comes to an agreement on whether or not the accused is guilty					✓
swears to tell the truth				✓	
makes sure the jury understands instructions	✓				
waits in the lobby until called in				✓	
makes sure the rules of the law are followed during the trial	✓				