Name: _____ Date: _____

Social Studies

Making the laws of The Bahamas



Match the words/terms to their meaning by writing the letter of the word next to its meaning.

1. _____ to discuss
2. _____ ways of communicating
3. _____ a proposal in Parliament to become law
4. _____ against the law

a. Act of Parliament
b. debate
c. unconstitutional
d. media
e. Bill

Complete the following using the words from the box below.

civil	criminal	statute	common

5. _____ law is unwritten law while _____ law is written.
6. _____ law deals with disputes between private citizens while _____ law deals with the punishment of offenders.

Choose the correct answer.

7. Which is an example of civil law?
a) Armed Robbery b) Divorce c) Kidnapping b) Murder

8. What is the term used to describe the introduction of the Bill to Parliament?
a) Act of Parliament b) First Reading c) Legal Language d) Select Committee

9. Who writes new laws?
a) The Governor-General b) The Prime Minister
c) Legal Draftsmen d) The Minister whom the Bill is responsible

10. Which of the following is NOT true?
a) New laws must follow the constitution.
b) Bahamian laws are based on British laws.
c) After the Bill is passed in the House of Assembly it is sent to the Cabinet.
d) Sometimes a Bill is referred to a select committee.

11. Why are laws sometimes difficult to understand?
a) Difficult words are used.
b) They use legal language that has its own meaning.
c) It is written in another language.
d) Small print is used.

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12. Who are legal draftsmen?
a) Members of Parliament b) Cabinet Ministers c) Lawyers d) Members of the Media

13. After the first reading of the Bill in Parliament, the public will have learnt about it from the media. Which is NOT an example of media?
a) Eye Witness News b) Esso Gas Station c) Nassau Guardian d) ZNS

14. Number the following 1-5 according to how laws are made.

a) _____ Senators discuss the Bill.

b) _____ The Bill is signed by the Governor-General.

c) _____ Lawyers in the cabinet study the Bill.

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d) _____ The Bill is introduced and debated in The House of Assembly.

e)) _____ The Minister responsible asks for the Bill to be written.



Fill in the blanks.

15. Another name for common law is _____ law.

16. A Bill is normally read _____ times before it becomes a law.

Let's Discuss! Do you think that it is important for a Bill to be debated in the Senate? Explain why of why not with at least TWO reasons to support your position. (3 marks)

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