

Task 1: Research Task - The Legal System

Due Date: Tuesday, 2 April 2024

Task Distributed: 17 March 2023

Unit: The Legal System

Task Type: Research and In-Class
Extended Response

Task Weighting: 30%

Outcomes: P1 P2 P3 P7 P8 P9

Task Description

This assessment has two components: an annotated media file and an in-class extended response.

PART 1: Annotated Media File

Research, annotate and submit a media file which contains:

- I. Five (5) **recent*** media articles and/or other relevant sources which illustrate the **operation of the Australian legal system**. **
- II. Analysis and annotation for each article demonstrating sound knowledge of the role of the legal system.
- III. Clearly labelled source for the article/ information including the date.
- IV. Use of legal terminology and concepts throughout the analysis.

*The media articles or source must be recent and cannot be more than ten years old.

****Operation of the Australian Legal System**

Choose five (5) of the topics from the following list to form the basis of your research and annotated media file:

- Parliament's ability to create, amend or repeal legislation/statute law
- The Courts' ability to create common law (precedent)
- The High Court's ability to interpret the Australian Constitution
- The Federal Court's ability to make a ruling in a family law matter
- A court decision where procedural fairness was an issue
- The jurisdiction of the Coroner's Court to investigate suspicious deaths and/or fires
- The ability of statute law to override common law
- The Children Court's ability to make a ruling in a juvenile case
- The application of Aboriginal customary law in the NSW legal system
- An international treaty that has been enacted into Australian domestic law

PART 2: Extended Response (In-Class Essay)

Question: **Outline how common law, statute law and the Constitution operate to protect individual rights and meet society's needs.**

TIPS:

- Students should begin their preparation by reading over their class notes and relevant sections of the textbook.
- Students should also investigate relevant websites e.g. those referred to in the textbook and the State Library Research Guides for Legal Studies.
- Essay format must be used i.e. there needs to be an introduction, main body and conclusion. Paragraphs should be used (no headings or bullet points).
- The essay must be in the third person e.g. do not say 'I think...', 'My opinion is...'. Instead write things like 'The evidence suggests...' or 'It appears clear that...'
- Students need to use a range of legal terminology, concepts and examples where appropriate.

NESA Glossary of Key Words

- **Outline:** sketch in general terms; indicate the main features of
- **Describe:** provide characteristics and features
- **Explain:** relate cause and effect; make the relationships between things evident; provide why and/or how
- **Evaluate:** identify components and the relationship between them; draw out and relate implications
- **Assess:** make a judgement of value, quality, outcomes, results or size
- **Understand the verb associated with the task.** *The verb will provide an understanding of the detail needed to successfully answer the question.*

Details of Submission

The task is due on **Tuesday, 2 April 2024 in period 5**. Students are to submit their annotated media file at the start of the lesson before they commence the in-class essay. A copy of the question and writing paper will be provided. The essay will be written in class without the aid of any notes. Students will have 45 minutes to complete their essay. The essay must be handed to the teacher before leaving the room.

Teacher Feedback and Student Self-Reflection

- The task will typically be returned to students within two weeks of the due date.
- At this time feedback including information on how to improve will be provided through the marking rubric and written comments from the teacher.
- Students can clarify or seek further feedback by speaking with their teacher.

Upon return of the task, students will also be expected to complete a self-reflection. This will be done in class.

How does this link to my learning?

This task enables students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the operation of the Australian legal system and how the law has developed to protect individual rights and meet society's needs.

Assessment Procedures

All students should be fully aware of the School Assessment Procedures for their year group. These were provided at the beginning of the school year and are available off the school website under the Learning Tab for each year group.

ANNOTATED MEDIA FILE

Marking Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selects and submits an annotated media file containing five (5) current media articles and/or other relevant sources which illustrate the operation of the legal system ▪ Analyse all the articles/cases and relate the articles/cases to theory ▪ Demonstrates outstanding knowledge of the role of the legal system ▪ Answers all aspects of the question in a well-structured manner ▪ Uses legal terminology and concepts throughout the paper 	9-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submits current media articles and/or other relevant sources which illustrate the operation of the legal system ▪ Analyse some of the articles/cases and relate some of the articles/cases to theory ▪ Demonstrates sound knowledge of the role of the legal system ▪ Answers most aspects of the question in a well-structured manner ▪ Uses legal terminology and concepts 	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submits a few relevant media articles and/or relevant sources ▪ Can describe the articles/cases or relate the articles/cases to theory ▪ Demonstrates some knowledge of the role of the legal system ▪ Answers some aspects of the question in a well-structured manner ▪ Uses some legal terminology and concepts 	5-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selects a couple of articles/cases ▪ Makes a valid statement or statements about articles/cases and makes an attempt to relate a case to theory ▪ Makes a valid statement of the role the legal system ▪ Answers part of the question with general statements ▪ Uses little or no legal terminology and concepts 	3-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student selects a case ▪ Student answers some aspects of the question ▪ Makes general statements about the law and case ▪ Uses no legal terminology 	1-2

EXTENDED RESPONSE

Marking Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates extensive knowledge of the three sources of contemporary Australian law-making processes and institutions • Makes an informed judgement on how the application of the law protects individual rights and meet society's needs • Integrates relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, international instruments and documents in the response • Presents a sustained, logical and cohesive answer using relevant legal terminology and concepts 	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates sound knowledge of the three sources of contemporary Australian law-making processes and institutions • Makes a sound judgement on how the application of the law protects individual rights and meet society's needs • Uses relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, instruments and documents in the response • Presents a logical and cohesive answer using relevant legal terminology and concepts 	13-16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some knowledge of the three sources of contemporary Australian law-making processes and institutions • Makes some judgement on how the application of the law protects individual rights and meet society's needs • Makes some reference to relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, instruments and documents in the response • Presents a structured answer using relevant legal terminology and concepts 	9-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates limited knowledge of the three sources of contemporary Australian law-making processes and institutions • Makes general statements on how the application of the law protects individual rights and meet society's needs • Makes limited reference to relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, instruments and documents in the response • Uses some legal terminology and concepts 	5-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes in general terms about the three sources of contemporary Australian law-making processes and institutions • Makes limited or no judgement on how the application of the law protects individual rights and meet society's needs • May make limited reference to relevant examples such as legislation, cases, media, instruments and documents in the response • Uses limited legal terminology 	1-4