

# Rule of Law

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rule of Law—Where Does It Come From?** Our nation was built on the rule of law. Read each statement below and decide which Rule of Law factor it describes.

**O** = Order and Security

**L** = Legitimacy

**C** = Checks and Balances

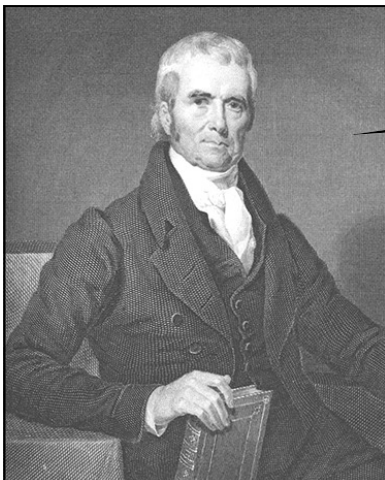
**E** = Equal Application of the Law

**P** = Procedural Fairness

**A** = Access to Justice

- \_\_\_1. Every state sent representatives to help write the U.S. Constitution, and all of those representatives signed the Constitution when it was finished.
- \_\_\_2. The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that states must give everyone "the equal protection of the laws."
- \_\_\_3. The 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that people accused of a crime have the right to have a lawyer help them defend themselves.
- \_\_\_4. The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution says one goal of the Constitution is to make sure our country is secure and peaceful.
- \_\_\_5. The U.S. Constitution splits the government's power between a legislative, an executive, and a judicial branch.
- \_\_\_6. The U.S. Constitution says that people accused of a crime have the right to a "speedy" trial.
- \_\_\_8. In the case *Marbury v. Madison* in 1803, the Supreme Court said that the judicial branch has the power to strike down laws that violate the Constitution, even though another branch of government passed that law.
- \_\_\_7. Congress has created the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, which lists the procedures that must be followed in every criminal case.
- \_\_\_9. The U.S. Constitution did not become the law of our nation until nine states approved it.
- \_\_\_10. Every state has laws that say children must go to school until a certain age.
- \_\_\_11. In the case *Marbury v. Madison* in 1803, the Supreme Court said that the Constitution is superior to all other laws and even the government must follow it.
- \_\_\_12. The U.S. Constitution says that nobody can be "deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law."

**Explain It to a 4th Grader.** In 1803, Chief Justice John Marshall wrote the Supreme Court's decision in *Marbury v. Madison*. He had something to say about the rule of law. How would you explain it so a little kid could understand?



*"The government of the United States has been ... termed a government of laws, and not of men."*

Chief Justice Marshall was trying to say that...



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**Fun with Rule of Law!** Find 20 key words in the puzzle.



First, find the 6 factors of Rule of Law:

- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Procedural \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Now find these other key terms:

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| INPUT        | RESPECT     |
| PROCEDURES   | BRANCHES    |
| SAFE         | ENFORCE     |
| CONSEQUENCES | INDEPENDENT |
| RULES        | PEOPLE      |



**Would This Work?** Debra doesn't think so, but she might be wrong. Look at each pair of Rule of Law factors. Would it be possible to have one without the other? If so, how? Watch out—this could be a brain twister! Use your graphic organizer for help.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><u>CHECKS &amp; BALANCES / EQUAL APPLICATION OF THE LAW</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> You could have one without the other if...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> They have to exist together because...</p> | <p><u>ACCESS TO JUSTICE / PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> You could have one without the other if...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> They have to exist together because...</p> |
|--|---|