



NAME: _____

CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

2021-2022 SUPREME COURT TERM

VOCABULARY

Directions: Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

1. **Affirmative Action** (n.) - A set of procedures, typically within the scope of admissions to educational institutions or professional employment, designed to eliminate unlawful discriminatory practices. In addition to preventative measures, there may also be remedies for this discrimination, which historically was on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin and religion.
2. **Judiciary** (n.) - The court system that is charged with adjudicating legal disputes as well as interpreting the law, defending the law and applying the law to legal cases.
3. **Originalism** (n.) - A type of judicial interpretation, typically of the U.S. Constitution, that purports to follow how the Constitution would have been understood or intended at the time it was written.
4. **Pragmatism** (n.) - A type of judicial interpretation, typically of the U.S. Constitution, that reviews laws with the specific context of their creation and focuses on the consequences of judicial decision making.
5. **Precedent** (n.) - A rule or principle established in a prior legal case that either binds or persuades judicial bodies in deciding subsequent cases with similar issues or facts.
6. **Second Amendment** (n.) - The second amendment of the Constitution protects the right to keep and bear arms
7. **Secularism** (n.) - The principle of separation of the state (government(s)) from religious institutions.

CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Directions: As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- What role(s) does the Supreme Court have as one of the three branches of the federal government?
- How should precedent influence Supreme Court justices in determining their opinions on cases?
- To what degree, if any, should public opinion be incorporated into a Supreme Court justice's decision making process, when determining their opinions on a case?
- Which of the cases to be decided this term do you believe will be most impactful? Why?

- “Hard cases make bad law” is an old legal adage, what do you think this means and how does it relate to the Supreme Court?
- How do you think the Supreme Court will rule on each of the cases? Why?