

Skills USA Legal Services Knowledge 9-10

Study Guide

This Contest is an individual event. The contestant must be a current 9th or 10th grade student.

The students will compete by taking a 50-item multiple choice examination covering constitutional law, criminal law, and court procedures. The following information assist the student in preparing for the examination.

Constitutional Law (15 Questions – 30%)

Identify the rights protected by the Bill of Rights and other components of constitutional law, specifically the Fourth Amendment, Fifth Amendment, Sixth Amendment, Eighth Amendment, and Fourteenth Amendments.

Identify and describe the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decisions involving the constitutional rights listed above (e.g., *Miranda v. Arizona* and *Mapp v. Ohio*).

Apply basic concepts of constitutional law, such as probable cause, custody, and the exclusionary rule.

Criminal Law (16 Questions – 32%)

Identify, describe, and apply basic concepts of law (e.g., (statutory and case law, substantive and procedural law)

Identify, describe, and apply basic concepts of criminal law to include general elements of crimes, categories of crimes, and defenses.

Identify, describe, and apply basic criminal procedural rules, to include jurisdiction, state and federal, and trial and appellate, and pleas.

Identify ethical issues and ethical behavior for law enforcement personnel.

Court Procedures (19 Questions – 38%)

Identify and describe the roles of the courtroom participants.

Identify and describe pretrial and trial stages of a criminal case.

Identify and describe basic criminal procedure rules and evidentiary terms.