

NSW Court Experience Programs

HSC Legal Studies

Booklet 3: After the Excursion



Part 1: Post Excursion Activities

1. From your observations, create a list of positives and negatives of using courts as a system of resolving disputes.



3. Google the cases that you saw today and create a tally sheet showing how many media articles appear about them. How would media coverage impact upon a case that is reported on? What about those that remain unreported?
4. How many closed courts did you see? How are closed courts used by the justice system to enable fairness in trials?
5. What are the obstacles to justice you have observed during your time in court?



6. Explain how differences in processes designed to enable access to justice may simultaneously help achieve AND undermine the achievement of rule of law principles.
 Justify whether you think the adversarial system is effective in achieving the rule of la Refer to at least 3 principles from the rule of law wheel in your response.



Part 2: Using your observations to examine the Themes and Challenges

1.	. Identify the	e ways	in which	you saw	the '	Themes	and	Challenges	are a	addressed	by t	the
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- issues of compliance and non-compliance in regard to criminal law
- the extent to which law reflects moral and ethical standards
- the role of law reform in the criminal justice system
- the extent to which the law balances the rights of victims, offenders and society
- the effectiveness of legal and non-legal measures in achieving justice.
- 2. Extended response practice questions.

Use examples from your observations to respond to the following questions.

- a) Assess the effectiveness of the courts in encouraging compliance.
- b) Discuss the role discretion plays in achieving equity for accused persons and offenders.
- c) Evaluate the effectiveness of courts in achieving fair and prompt outcomes for individuals and society.
- d) Evaluate the effectiveness of courts in achieving justice for individuals.
- e) Explain how openness and transparency helps to enhance the enforceability of the law.