



RULE OF LAW

EDUCATION CENTRE

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.

Positives (What are courts good at? Effectiveness)	Negatives (What are courts bad at? Ineffectiveness)

2. How has your experience today challenged or changed your perceptions of the justice system that you identified in your pre-learning activity?



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

1. Identify the ways in which you saw the Themes and Challenges are addressed by the justice system.

- the role of discretion in the criminal justice system
- 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.