



## **Magna Carta: The Foundation of the Rule of Law**

Watch the video explaining the Magna Carta and fill in the gaps: The video can be found at <https://www.ruleoflaw.org.au/what-is-the-rule-of-law/>

### **What is the Rule of Law?**

The rule of law underpins our democratic society through \_\_\_\_\_ – the people have all the power. It protects our \_\_\_\_\_ and shields us from those in positions of influence, who think the law does not always \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

### **What is the Magna Carta?**

The Magna Carta, which is Latin for \_\_\_\_\_, was a list of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ forced on the evil King, John of England.

The \_\_\_\_\_ established the \_\_\_\_\_ and the idea that all citizens, including those in power, should be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ruled by the law.

### **The King is No Longer Above the Law**

The King was now \_\_\_\_\_ to follow the laws of the land – even though he was the \_\_\_\_\_!

This outcome is the main principle of the rule of law – \_\_\_\_\_ is above the law.

Under the rule of law, \_\_\_\_\_, including the \_\_\_\_\_ and law enforcement officers, must follow the law. There are \_\_\_\_\_ exceptions.

### **We are Ruled by the Law and the Law Alone**

Punishment could only be for a \_\_\_\_\_ in the law, and nothing else. The punishment must also be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the crime committed.

## Qualified Independent Judiciary

Independent meant not under \_\_\_\_\_ control of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Mechanisms are provided in The Australian Constitution to ensure \_\_\_\_\_ in all decision-making processes, such as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. One of the most important examples of this process includes the \_\_\_\_\_ of powers.

This means our judges remain separate from those who make the laws – the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Confidence in Fair Process

A fair trial:

- a. Includes an \_\_\_\_\_ court.
- b. Is open to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Is held \_\_\_\_\_ and without undue delay.
- d. Considers the accused \_\_\_\_\_ until proven \_\_\_\_\_.

## Known by All

The Magna Carta was sent out to all the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. This way, the law was widely \_\_\_\_\_, and every person knew the \_\_\_\_\_ was also required to follow the law.

The Magna Carta is foundational to providing Australia with a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ society.

## Answers in order. Make sure to only look at these after you have filled in the gaps!

Representative government, rights, apply, The Great Charter, demands, expectations, Magna Carta, rule of law, fairly, equally, expected, King, no one, everyone, Prime Minister, no, breach, fair, fit, coercive, King, independence, checks, balances, separation, Legislature, independent, public, promptly, innocent, guilty, towns, churches, known, King, safe, secure.