The letter of the law

VOCABULARY PRACTICE
PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Match each law word with its meaning.

1 law ____	**a** a rule made by a government that everyone must follow
2 court ____	**b** the place where legal cases are decided
3 judge ____	**c** a person who decides cases in court
4 lawyer ____	**d** a person trained to give legal advice or represent people
5 trial ____	**e** a formal examination of a case in court
6 witness ____	**f** a person who saw or knows about a crime
7 evidence ____	**g** facts or information used to prove something in court
8 guilty ____	**h** having done something wrong or illegal
9 innocent ____	**i** not having done something wrong
10 verdict ____	**j** the official decision made in a trial

2 Choose the correct form.

1 It's against the law / laws to do that.

2 The case went to court / courts.

3 The judge / judges made a decision.

4 She hired a lawyer / law-yer.

5 The trial / trials lasted three days.

6 A witness / witnesses spoke in court.

7 There was strong evidence / evidences.

8 The jury found him guilty / guiltily.

3 Complete the descriptions with words from the box.

court | evidence | guilty | innocent | judge | lawyer | trial | witness

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Case A: The 1 _____ hired a skilled 2 _____ to defend her in 3 _____.
Case B: A key 4 _____ gave important 5 _____ during the trial.
Case C: The 6 _____ listened carefully before deciding the man was 7 _____, and the jury agreed he was not 8 _____ of any crime.

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4 Match each word with its opposite.

1 guilty ____	**a** innocent
2 legal ____	**b** illegal
3 fair ____	**c** unfair
4 true ____	**d** false
5 accuse ____	**e** defend
6 punish ____	**f** reward
7 strict ____	**g** lenient
8 open court ____	**h** closed hearing

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

A court case

Last month, a local man went to trial after being accused of theft. His lawyer argued that there was not enough evidence to prove he was guilty. Several witnesses gave their accounts in court, and the judge listened carefully to each side. After a short discussion, the jury decided the man was innocent. The verdict surprised many people who had followed the case closely.

1 The man went to trial for theft. T / F

2 His lawyer argued there was strong evidence. T / F

3 Witnesses gave their accounts. T / F

4 The judge did not listen carefully. T / F

5 The jury found him innocent. T / F

6 The verdict was expected by everyone. T / F

6 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition (of, in, to, for).

1 He was found guilty _____ theft.

2 She went _____ court.

3 The lawyer spoke _____ the judge.

4 They searched _____ evidence.

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OVER TO YOU

Write a 70-90 word description of a court case (real or imaginary). Include what happened and the outcome.

[ ] Use at least eight target words. [ ] Use past tenses accurately. [ ] Keep the description balanced and factual.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Law words

1 a 2 b 3 c 4 d 5 e 6 f 7 g 8 h 9 i 10 j

2 Choose the correct form

1 law 2 court 3 judge 4 lawyer 5 trial 6 witness 7 evidence 8 guilty

3 Descriptions

1 innocent 2 lawyer 3 court 4 witness 5 evidence 6 judge 7 innocent 8 guilty

4 Opposites

1 a 2 b 3 c 4 d 5 e 6 f 7 g 8 h

5 Reading

1 T
2 F - not enough evidence.
3 T
4 F - he listened carefully.
5 T
6 F - it surprised many people.

6 Prepositions

1 of 2 to 3 to 4 for

Over to you

Answers will vary. Check clear organisation, accurate forms and balanced wording.