

Answers to review questions in Theme 2

Chapter 6. Laws in contemporary society

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1. The UNDHR was devised at the end of the Second World War (1945) and became international law in 1976.
2. Strasbourg in France.
3. The 2010 Equality Act brought together in a single piece of legislation the wide range of anti-discrimination legislation that existed in the UK and set standards regarding reporting and the enforcement of the principles underpinning the Act.
4. In the UK the Equality and Human Rights Commission is responsible for promoting anti-discrimination policies.

Chapter 7. Rights and responsibilities within the legal system

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1. The title given to the highest-ranking police officer in a regional force is Chief Constable. In London the title is Police Commissioner.
2. The CPS (Crown Prosecution Service) has the role of deciding whether a case proceeds to a charge being brought after reviewing the evidence produced by the Police. If charges are brought the CPS represents the state at the trial. The CPS is an independent body.
3. Damages are awarded in a civil case, which is a dispute between individuals or organisations.
4. 16 years old.

Chapter 8. How laws protect the citizen and deal with criminals

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1. The USA relied heavily upon Magna Carta when drafting its Declaration of Independence. A number of Commonwealth countries also use Magna Carta as a basis for their constitutions.
2. Common Law has developed from decisions made by courts based upon the principles of English law.
3. A Trade Union is an organised group of workers who join together in order to be represented in negotiations with their employers. Professional bodies such as the BMA act in the same way for the medical profession. Traditionally Unions were industry based but now many Unions have merged to form very large bodies like Unison and Unite.
4. A custodial sentence is where the freedom of the individual is taken away e.g., a jail sentence for 12 months.

Chapter 9. Universal human rights

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1. The Court of the Council of Europe is the European Court of Human Rights, which sits in Strasbourg. The Court of the European Union is the European Court of Justice, which sits in Luxembourg.

2. A Human Right is an agreed basic entitlement for every citizen in society i.e., the right to life; right to an education; right to live without fear of torture.
3. HRA stands for the Human Rights Act 1998, which came into force in 2000 in the UK. It incorporated the ECHR into UK law.
4. The International Criminal Court deals with individuals who are charged with crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Chapter 10. Bringing about change in the legal system

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1. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland 12 people serve on a jury. In Scotland 15 people serve.
2. PCC stand for Police and Crime Commissioner.
3. A Neighbourhood Watch scheme is a locally based scheme where neighbours work with the police to prevent crime in their locality.