BRITISH COLUMBIA LAW STUDIES 12 (MLST-12) · FINAL EXAM · 50 QUESTIONS

Final Exam — Practice Test

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Reading I - A New Town Bylaw

Use this reading for questions 1 and 9.

The council of the fictional town of Cedar Falls passed a bylaw that closed the town park at ten in the evening. Anyone found in the park after that hour could be fined. The council said the rule would keep the park safe and quiet for neighbours.

A resident named Maya argued that the council had no right to make the rule. The council replied that the province had given towns the power to pass bylaws for local safety, and that the bylaw applied to everyone in the town, including council members.

1 **What is the central claim of Reading I, A New Town Bylaw?**

- **A** it is approved by every resident
- **B** it is made by an authority with power to make it and it can be enforced
- **C** it has existed for a hundred years
- **D** it is written in a newspaper

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2 **According to Reading I, the actus reus in the coat case was Dana**

- A riding a bus
- B attending a dance
- C taking and keeping a coat that was not hers
- D checking a pocket

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3 **According to Reading I, evidence that the store breached its duty included that staff saw the ice but did not**

- A close the store for a month
- B call the police
- C pay Priya at once
- D salt the steps or put out a warning sign

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4 **According to Reading I, the student editors claimed freedom of**

A religion

B mobility

C expression

D association

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5 **A statute is best defined as**

A a decision of a single judge

B a law passed by a legislature or Parliament

C a rule made by a private company

D an unwritten community custom

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6 **Criminal law in Canada is mainly found in the**

- A Criminal Code, a federal statute
- B municipal bylaws of each town
- C provincial civil codes only
- D Charter alone

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7 **In a civil case, the person who brings the claim is called the**

- A Crown
- B witness
- C accused
- D plaintiff

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8 **The Oakes test is used by courts to decide whether a limit on a Charter right is**

- A approved by the police
- B older than the Charter
- C reasonable and demonstrably justified under section 1
- D popular with voters

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9 **According to Reading I, a purpose of the park bylaw was to**

- A keep the park safe and quiet for neighbours
- B ban all parks in the province
- C punish one named resident
- D raise money for the province

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10 **A hybrid offence is one where the Crown may choose to proceed by**

- A civil trial or by mediation only
- B a jury or by a judge alone with no choice
- C provincial court or by a tribunal only
- D summary conviction or by indictment

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11 **The neighbour principle in negligence means that a person must take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions that could foreseeably harm**

- A only family members
- B neighbours in the broad sense of people closely affected
- C only paying customers
- D only government officials

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12 **Section 7 of the Charter protects the right to life, liberty, and security of the person, and the right not to be deprived of them except in accordance with principles of**

- A fundamental justice
- B popular opinion
- C police practice
- D school rules

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13 **A municipal bylaw gets its legal power from**

- A power delegated by the province
- B a decision of the Supreme Court alone
- C an international treaty
- D the mayor acting alone

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14 **On arrest, a person in Canada has the right to**

- A choose the judge for the trial
- B be told the reason for arrest and to consult a lawyer
- C leave police custody at any time
- D refuse to be charged

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15 **Compensatory damages in a tort case aim to**

- A create a new law
- B punish the defendant with prison
- C put the plaintiff back in the position the plaintiff would have been in without the harm, as far as money can
- D fine the plaintiff

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16 **Section 11 of the Charter includes the right of an accused person to be presumed innocent until proven guilty and to have a trial within a**

- A secret hearing
- B single day
- C foreign court
- D reasonable time

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17 **What kinds of cases does a court of appeal mainly hear?**

- A applications for passports
- B cases that have never been filed
- C first trials of criminal charges
- D appeals from decisions of lower courts

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18 **When an accused person enters a plea, the accused states whether the accused is**

A a citizen or not

B ready to pay a fine

C guilty or not guilty

D rich or poor

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19 **Vicarious liability means that an employer can be liable for a tort committed by an employee acting in the**

A future after quitting

B past before being hired

C course of employment

D employee private home at all times

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20 **Section 33, the notwithstanding clause, allows a government to declare that a law operates notwithstanding certain Charter sections for up to**

- A twenty years
- B fifty years
- C one year
- D five years

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21 **Defence counsel in a criminal case acts for**

- A the court clerk
- B the accused person
- C the police service
- D the Crown

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22 **Necessity as a defence involves a person who breaks the law to**

A avoid a greater and immediate harm

B gain money more quickly

C avoid paying taxes

D skip a court date

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23 **When a party fails to perform a contract without a lawful excuse, that failure is called a**

A breach of contract

B crime

C bylaw

D tort

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24 **The duty to accommodate in human rights law means an employer or service provider must adjust rules or practices for a person protected ground short of**

A hiring extra staff in every case

B undue hardship

C any cost at all

D changing the law

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

25 **What do both public law and private law do?**

A never involve lawyers

B use courts to resolve disputes under rules

C punish only criminal offences

D apply only to governments

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

26 **A purpose of sentencing that aims to discourage the offender and others from committing crimes is called**

A deterrence

B reparation

C separation

D rehabilitation

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27 **In deciding parenting arrangements after separation, the main test a court uses is the best interests of the**

A parent with more money

B court

C school

D child

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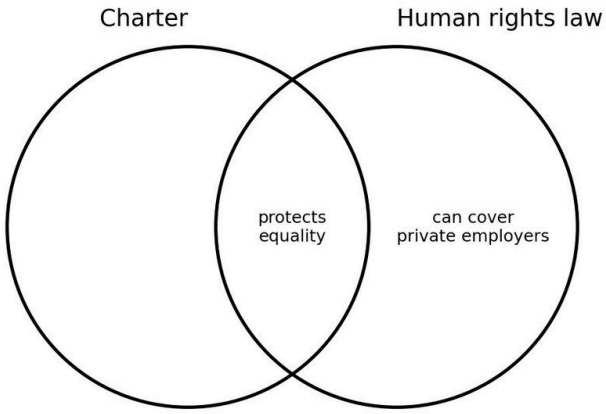
28 **In the Venn diagram of the Charter and human rights law, the region labelled can cover private employers belongs to human rights law because the Charter mainly limits**



- **A** school rules only
- **B** foreign governments
- **C** government action
- **D** private contracts only

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

29 **The common law tradition in most of Canada came mainly from**

A the United States

B France

C England

D Spain

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30 **The graph shows an illustrative example of cases diverted from court. The year with the highest number shown is**

A 2024

B 2015

C 2018

D 2021

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31 **Nuisance as a tort involves an unreasonable interference with a person use or enjoyment of**

A a passport

B a trial

C a public office

D land

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32 **Section 4 of the Charter sets a maximum term of five years for a House of Commons or legislative assembly unless a longer term is justified by war or**

A a school holiday

B an election promise

C rebellion

D a budget deficit

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33 **The British North America Act of 1867 is important because it**

- A created the Dominion of Canada and divided lawmaking powers
- B gave Canada the Charter
- C ended provincial governments
- D made Canada a republic

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34 **Recklessness in criminal law means that a person**

- A acts with no awareness at all
- B foresees a risk and takes it unjustifiably
- C acts by pure accident with no fault
- D follows a court order

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35 **Consent can be a defence to an intentional tort when the plaintiff voluntarily agreed to the**

A damages amount

B touching or activity

C trial outcome

D judge decision

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36 **Freedom of association under section 2 protects the right to join groups such as unions and**

A political parties

B criminal gangs for crime

C secret courts

D foreign armies

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37 **When a valid federal law and a valid provincial law conflict, the usual result under federal paramountcy is that the**

- **A** older law always prevails
- **B** court must strike down both laws
- **C** provincial law prevails in all cases
- **D** federal law prevails to the extent of the conflict

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38 **Extrajudicial measures under youth justice include warnings and referrals that aim to**

- **A** remove all consequences
- **B** ban the young person from school
- **C** hold a young person accountable without a formal court case where suitable
- **D** impose adult prison sentences at once

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39 **A class action allows a group of people with similar claims to bring**

- **A** a petition to Parliament only
- **B** a claim with no court at all
- **C** one lawsuit together
- **D** separate criminal charges

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40 **Discrimination in human rights law can be direct, or it can be indirect when a neutral rule has a harmful effect on a group protected by a**

- **A** contract
- **B** bylaw
- **C** school rule
- **D** ground

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41 **A justice of the peace in British Columbia may**

A pass federal statutes

B deal with bail, warrants, and some less serious matters

C overrule the Supreme Court of Canada

D appoint the prime minister

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42 **Restorative justice in criminal cases focuses on**

A repairing harm and involving victims, offenders, and the community

B increasing fines for every offence

C removing victims from the process

D deciding cases without any hearing

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43 **Property division after separation in British Columbia is governed mainly by provincial law under the**

A Divorce Act alone

B Charter alone

C Family Law Act

D Criminal Code

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44 **Cyberbullying can raise legal issues under criminal law, human rights law, and school rules, and schools and platforms may have duties to act against**

A free speech in all cases

B homework

C sports

D harassment

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45 **The graph shows an illustrative example of court filings. The overall change from 2016 to 2025 was**

- **A** a fall to zero
- **B** no change at all
- **C** a rise, with filings higher in 2025 than in 2016
- **D** a rise in every single year with no dip

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

46 **Parole is best described as**

- **A** a pardon that erases the trial
- **B** a new trial
- **C** release with no supervision at all
- **D** release from prison before the full sentence ends under supervision and conditions

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47 **The graph shows an illustrative example of civil mediations. The year with the highest number shown is**

A 2025

B 2016

C 2019

D 2022

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48 **The graph shows an illustrative example of rights complaints. The year with the highest number shown is**

A 2022

B 2025

C 2016

D 2019

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49 **A difference between law and morality is that law is**

- A enforceable by the state through courts and penalties
- B never written down
- C based only on personal opinion
- D optional for everyone

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50 **The graph shows an illustrative example of youth justice programs. The number in 2025 compared with 2016 was**

- A the same
- B higher
- C zero
- D lower

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ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. D
8. C
9. A
10. D
11. B
12. A
13. A
14. B
15. C
16. D
17. D
18. C
19. C
20. D
21. B
22. A
23. A
24. B
25. B
26. A
27. D
28. C
29. C
30. D
31. D
32. C
33. A
34. B
35. B
36. A
37. D
38. C
39. C
40. D
41. B
42. A
43. C
44. D
45. C
46. D
47. A
48. B
49. A
50. B

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