

Worksheet 3.4a: People who work in the law

1. These are the statements that were whispered in the group activity. Did you hear them correctly? All of the statements are true. In small groups, discuss which facts you did not already know before this lesson.

a) The criminal justice system is complicated because it has so many people working in it.

b) Some of the citizens who enforce the law in the UK are paid and others are volunteers.

c) A jury is made up of twelve adults. If you don't turn up for jury duty, you can be fined up to £1000.

d) Police officers cannot make laws, but it is their duty to ensure that laws are followed.

e) The two main types of lawyers in our country are solicitors and barristers.

f) Magistrates can be full-time or part-time. Part-time magistrates come from a diverse range of career backgrounds.

g) Senior judges are extremely powerful, because they make difficult decisions about how to apply laws.

h) Judges work in both civil and criminal courts. Some solicitors and barristers become judges once they have enough experience.

2. Complete the following sentences.

a) The police do not have the power to create laws, but they do have the power to _____

b) Judges have a lot of power. Because of this, before becoming a judge they usually spend time _____

c) Part-time magistrates don't usually have a legal background (they might be teachers, for example). This is useful to defendants because _____

d) Lawyers (barristers and solicitors) play an important role in the justice system because they _____
