

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

English Law and Government Foundation



The history of English law is deeply intertwined with the development of the _____ Law, a system of law based on court decisions and customs rather than written codes. This system emerged in _____ after the Norman Conquest in 1066. The king's courts began to apply and enforce _____ consistently across the land, leading to a unified body of law. One key figure in this process was _____ II, whose reforms in the 12th century established a common legal framework for the entire kingdom. His establishment of royal _____ and the use of juries were groundbreaking. Over time, the decisions of these courts formed a body of precedents, known as _____ law, which became a fundamental component of the Common Law. Lawyers and judges would look to these past _____ when making their arguments and rulings, ensuring that the law evolved but remained consistent across _____.

Another significant development was the Magna Carta in 1215, which limited the king's power and laid the _____ for many principles still present in English law today, including the right to a fair trial.

The _____ of the Common Law did not stop at the borders of England. As the British Empire expanded, it took its legal _____ with it, planting the seeds of the Common Law in numerous other countries, such as the United States, _____, and Australia. Today, the Common Law system is known for its flexibility and adaptability, allowing it to respond to societal _____ more swiftly than codified legal systems.

Interestingly, the Common Law continues to evolve through the principle of _____ *decisis*, meaning "to stand by things decided," which respects the rulings of previous cases while also allowing for changes when necessary. This _____ ensures that the law can adapt over time, reflecting changes in society's values and norms.

Henry rules case foundation system England principle influence Canada
decisions courts stare Common changes cases