

Definition Essay: The Law

Read the following quotations:

“Even when laws have been written down, they ought not always to remain unaltered.”

Aristotle (Greek Philosopher, 384-322 BC)

“The United States is a nation of laws: badly written and randomly enforced.”

Frank Zappa (American musician, singer, and songwriter, 1940-1993)

“I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for the law.”

Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. (American Minister and Civil Rights Activist, 1929-1968)

“Lawless are they that make their wills their law.”

William Shakespeare (British Dramatist and Playwright, 1564-1616)

Write an essay in which you define the word *Law*.

Basic Requirements:

- Introduction paragraph with thesis statement (**HINT:** This thesis statement will propose your definition of the word *Law*.)
- 2-3 body paragraphs that correlate with your thesis statement and support your definition
- A concluding paragraph that reminds me of your key points and effectively argues your definition

As you write your essay, you must:

- Focus on defining the concept of Law.
- Effectively organize your ideas using the provided graphic organizer. (A five-paragraph essay is not necessary; however, you do need a definite introduction, body and conclusion.)
- Include ideas from any of the following sources:
 - The dictionary and or personal definition
 - Synonyms and antonyms (compare/contrast)
 - An anecdote
 - Any ideas stimulated by the above quotations
 - Other historical evidence
 - Evidence from relevant literary works (*Achebe’s Things Fall Apart*, *Golding’s Lord of the Flies*, and *Lee’s To Kill A Mockingbird*, for example)
- Include ample and appropriate details.
- Edit your essay for standard grammar and language usage.
- **PROOFREAD!**

