

LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP

Learning Objectives: Students will

1. Demonstrate understanding of law terminology.
2. Apply comprehension and listening skills by participating in a word loop activity.
3. Enhance critical thinking skills by creating visual representations of legal terminology.


TEKS: 3.15A; 4.21A; 5.25A

Materials Needed: A set of Law Vocabulary Word Loop Cards (attached), drawing paper, crayons or markers

Vocabulary: badgering, bailiff, bench, closing argument, court reporter, cross-examination, defendant, defense attorney, direct examination, evidence, irrelevant, judge, jury, objection, opening statement, overrule, perjury, prosecuting attorney, subpoena, sustain, testimony, verdict, witness, witness stand

Teaching Strategy:


1. Note: This activity should be used after students have been introduced to various legal terms.
2. Give each student, a “Law Vocabulary Word Loop Card.” Appoint a student to start the activity and have him or her read the bottom part of the card that states, “Who has... .” The student who has the answer to the question should respond by saying, “I have... .” and then read the question at the bottom of his or her card.
3. Students should continue reading and responding to the information on their cards until the person who started the activity answers the last question. (After students catch on to the activity, they usually want to do it a second time.)
4. Following the completion of the Word Loop, give each student a piece of paper. Tell students that they are to create a visual representation of the “I have” legal vocabulary word that is listed on their “Legal Vocabulary Word Loop Card.” Students should title their drawing with their assigned vocabulary word and be encouraged to use symbols to represent their vocabulary word.
5. Have students share their illustrations with the class and then bind the illustrations and create a Legal Vocabulary book for everyone to enjoy. Illustrations may also be mounted on the wall or be used to create a bulletin board.



Extension for Gifted/Talented: Have students create logic problems reflecting the content of the lesson. Students should complete the following steps: (1) Determine the solution to the logic problem; (2) Make a logic grid and begin writing the clues. (Be sure to incorporate legal terminology in the clues.); (3) Mix up the clues and work the logic problem on a clean, new grid; and (4) When the logic problem can be solved correctly, recopy it.



The teacher should make copies of the new logic problems for students in the class to solve.

LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “the defense attorney.”

Who has a court officer who is in charge of prisoners while in the courtroom and looks after jurors?





I have “the bailiff.”

Who has the person who is accused of doing something wrong?




I have “the defendant.”

Who has the group of people who hear a case and decide on the verdict?




I have “the jury.”

Who has a person who is called to testify in a court of law and promises to tell the truth?





LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “a witness.”

Who has the name of the seat in the courtroom where the judge sits during a trial?





I have “the bench.”

Who has the introduction of the facts of a case given by attorneys at the beginning of a trial?



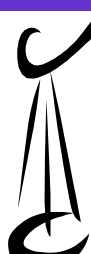
I have “opening statements.”

Who has an objection to a question asked in court that has nothing to do with the case?




I have “irrelevant.”

Who has a court order requiring a person to appear in court to give testimony?





LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “a subpoena.”

Who has the person who records everything that is said during a trial?





I have “the court reporter.”

Who has the evidence given by witnesses under oath?




I have “testimony.”

Who has the place where witnesses sit when they testify in court?




I have “the witness stand.”

Who has proof that something is true, such as witnesses’ statements and physical objects such as weapons, clothing, records, or documents?





LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “evidence.”

Who has the decision made by the jury at the end of a trial?





I have “the verdict.”

Who has the person (appointed or elected) who makes sure the trial is fair and keeps order in the courtroom?




I have “the judge.”

Who has the name of the lawyer who represents the State against the defendant in a criminal trial?




I have “the prosecuting attorney.”

Who has the final statements presented by the attorneys to the jury at the end of a trial?





LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “closing arguments.”

Who has an attorney’s opposition to a question asked by the opposing attorney or an answer given by a witness?





I have “an objection.”

Who has the questioning of a witness by the attorney who called the witness to testify?




I have “direct examination.”

Who has to approve or agree with an objection?




I have “sustain.”

Who has pestering or harassing witnesses in order to confuse, annoy, or wear them down?





LEGAL VOCABULARY WORD LOOP CARDS





I have “badgering.”

Who has the action of the judge when he or she disagrees with an objection?





I have “overrule.”

Who has the questioning of a witness by the opposing attorney?



I have “cross-examination.”

Who has lying under oath?



I have “perjury.”

Who has the lawyer who represents the defendant in a criminal case?

