





Handbook for Jurors

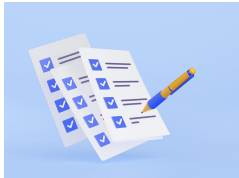

Close Reading Notes-ANSWER KEY

Part I: The Role of Jurors/Juries

Topic/ Picture	Summary
Introduction 	<p>Jurors follow these procedures to administer justice. Jury duty is the highest service a citizen can give during peace. Jurors are an officer of the court. A juror's job is to reach a verdict based on evidence and laws as the judge instructs. Jurors need to be honest, conscientious, and without fear or favor. Each courtroom has a bailiff or deputy sheriff to help jurors understand what is expected.</p>
The Integrity Of The Jurors 	<p>Jurors must conduct themselves with integrity. Jurors should not accept any gifts. A juror should refrain from talking with other people interested in the case. A juror should avoid all closeness with anyone interested in a jury decision.</p> <p>Jurors must be patient while evidence is presented and must only form conclusions once all evidence and arguments have been given and until the judge has given instructions.</p> <p>Jurors should base their verdicts solely upon the evidence and the judge's instructions as to the law rather than their notions of what the law is or ought to be.</p> <p>Jurors should consult the judge if there is any doubt about proper conduct or any question regarding the trial of the case.</p>
Important Things To Remember During The Trial 	<p>Jurors should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not use electronic devices or social media during the trial: Do not talk about the case or look on the computer for information related to the case. • Always sit in the same seat in the jury box. • Listen to every question and answer. • Refrain from talking about the case: Jurors should wait until in the jury room for deliberations to talk to anyone about the case. • Ask questions of the judge, or in a civil case, may be able to ask questions of a witness. • Refrain from trying to be an amateur detective: Because the only evidence a juror can consider is

	<p>what is presented in court, no independent investigations are allowed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control their emotions: Jurors should not indicate how any evidence or trial incident affects them by speaking, facial contortion, or other expressions. • If jurors doubt their rights or duties as jurors, they should only ask the judge for information. If an emergency affecting their service should arise, consult the judge.
<p>Conduct In The Jury Room</p> 	<p>The jury selects a foreperson before deliberations. The foreperson is a spokesperson that makes sure discussions are sensible and orderly. Decisions should be fully and fairly discussed, and every juror should be able to say what he or she thinks about every question. When the jury arrives at one, the foreperson will sign the verdict.</p>

Part II: The Selection of Jurors/Juries

Topic/ Picture	Summary
<p>Qualifications Of A Juror</p> 	<p>Jurors must be 18, citizens/ legal residents in a county in Florida. They need a Florida Driver's license/ ID or Affidavit of eligibility.</p>
<p>Exemptions From Jury Duty</p> 	<p>If you are summoned, you must go to jury duty; if you don't, you can be fined \$100 and could be held in contempt of court. The following reasons can get you excused:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expectant mom or parent who is not employed full-time and has custody of a child younger than six • Can show hardship, extreme inconvenience, or public necessity • a person 70 years or older • A person who has served as a juror within the last year • Anyone with a personal stake in any issue of the trial • People who work in the government, like the governor or police officer




Payment For Jury Duty 	<p>For the first three days of jury duty, you will be paid \$15 per day; if you serve longer than that, you will be paid \$30 per day. If you are getting paid by your job while on jury duty, you will not get paid. You do not get paid for gas or travel expenses. For the first three days of jury duty, jurors will be paid \$15 per day; if jurors serve longer than that, they will be paid \$30 per day. If Jurors are paid by their job while on jury duty, they will not get paid for jury duty. Jurors do not get paid for gas or travel expenses.</p>
Length Of Service 	<p>If a juror does get selected for a trial, they will serve until that trial is completed. The average trial lasts about three days. If the prospective jurors are not selected on the first day, their service will be complete at the end of that day.</p>
The Questioning Of Jurors 	<p>Jurors will take an oath to honestly answer all questions to the judge and attorneys. Some of these questions may seem personal. The purpose of the questions is to see if jurors have any connection to the case or why they would not be able to stay neutral. Jurors could be excused “for cause” when the judge believes they cannot render a fair and impartial verdict. The attorneys also can exercise a limited number of “peremptory challenges” when they excuse a juror without stating any reason. This process is called a “voir dire.”</p>

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