**Questions:** *Use knowledge gained from the reading to answer the two questions below, but place answers in your own words.*

| 1. **Why is writing an opinion an important part of the judicial decision-making process?**  * Citizens need to know decisions are fairly reached * Helps courts of appeal * Furthers case law * Helps a judge think through complex issues and forces them to carefully consider everything before making a judgment |
| --- |
| 1. **What considerations go into the judicial decision-making process?**  * Law books * Cases * Rules of evidence * Legal precedent * Prior rulings |

Adapted from:

<https://www.minnpost.com/community-voices/2014/09/how-judges-make-decisions/>

<https://www.minnpost.com/community-voices/2014/10/why-judges-write-opinions/>