

Video worksheet

2.1 An overview of the Australian legal system

Pages 32–36

What is law?



1 Fill in the blanks with the words provided in the table below:

law	judge	two	outcome
moral	purpose	consequences	idea

'There are _____ extreme ideas of what is _____. At one end, is the idea that the _____ of law is to do good or be _____, that judges should bend the law in order to bring about a good _____. At the other end, is the _____ that the law is not necessarily moral, it is what it is; a _____ should apply the letter of the law whatever the _____.'

2 In your opinion, should laws be moral? Explain your answer.

3 Identify the term used for laws created by the parliament.

Name: _____

Class: _____

4 Identify the term used for laws created by the courts.

5 According to Michael Kirby, why do laws need to 'adapt' or 'change'?

6 'The personal value system is ruled out' when judges make statutory interpretations. Explain what you think this means. Is it a good thing? Justify your answer.