

2002 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW CONFERENCE AND DINNER

QUIZ QUESTIONS (AND ANSWERS)

Round One (relatively easy) (one mark each)

1. Which High Court judge addressed George Williams' constitutional law conference dinner in Sydney on 15 February 2002?

(Justice McHugh)

2. From which States have there never been appointments to the High Court?

(South Australia and Tasmania)

3. Which section of the Constitution did former Chief Justice Sir John Latham say, in his retirement speech, would be found, when he died, engraved on his heart?

(Section 92)

4. Who was the High Court judge who never sat?

(Piddington)

5. Which High Court judge has a supernova named after him?

(Murphy)

6. Of the 43 High Court judges to date, were more born in the 19th century or the 20th century?

(20th century (24))

7. What was the first case decided by the High Court?

(Hannah v Dalgarno)

8. How many living, retired High Court judges are there?

(9 (Gibbs, Stephen, Mason, Jacobs, Wilson, Brennan, Deane, Dawson, Toohey))

9. Who said, 'it wasn't until I heard Justice Powers deliver a judgment that I fully understood the meaning of the phrase "ultra vires"?'?

(Dixon)

10. H V Evatt was the youngest High Court judge to be appointed (36) and also the youngest to leave the Bench (46), serving only 10 years. The second youngest judge to leave the Bench also left after serving only 10 years, at the age of 58? Who was it?

(Stephen)

Round Two (Moderately hard) (Two marks each)

- 11. Two High Court judges were formerly Associates to High Court judges. One of them was appointed when the judge for whom he had been an associate was still on the Bench. Who was it?**

(McTiernan (associate to Rich))

- 12. Which High Court judge translated Danté's *Inferno* into English, only to have a reviewer state that he had 'succeeded in rendering the poetry of Danté into the language of a Parliamentary enactment'?**

(Griffith)

- 13. The Privy Council heard appeals from many countries. From how many countries is there an appeal to the High Court?**

(Two. (Australia and Nauru))

- 14. Which High Court judge remarried at the age of 87?**

(Rich)

- 15. Who has been the High Court's most frequent dissenter?**

(Kirby)

- 16. Who has been the shortest-serving Chief Justice?**

(Isaacs)

- 17. Which High Court judge lost the sight of an eye playing rugby union in his youth?**

(Deane)

- 18. Who were the two people of whom Sir Owen Dixon thought it was a tragedy that they were not appointed to the High Court?**

(Leo Cussen and Frederick Jordan)

19. When the bank foreclosed on the family home in 1936, which High Court judge helped to bury his father's law library in the backyard before the house was sold?

(Wilson)

20. How many of the current High Court judges had a parent either in the law or who went to University?

(0)

Round Three (Moderately hard, but with helpful alternatives) (Three marks each)

21. Who was the first woman to appear as counsel before the High Court?

- A. Joan Rosanove
- B. Roma Mitchell
- C. Mary Gaudron
- D. Amanda Vanstone
- E. Deborah Wardley

(B. Roma Mitchell)

22. Who designed the jabot worn by the Justices until the late 1980s, when Chief Justice Mason introduced a change?

- A. Yves St Laurent
- B. Lady Barwick
- C. Lady Aickin
- D. Ken Done
- E. Gianni Versace

(C. Lady Aickin)

23. What is the longest period of service by a High Court judge's associate?

- A. 2 years
- B. 5 years
- C. 11 years
- D. 22 years
- E. 44 years

(E. 44 years)

24. Who was the architect of the High Court building in Canberra?

- A. Harry Seidler
- B. Colin Madigan
- C. Phillip Cox
- D. Elvira Madigan
- E. James Madison

(B. Colin Madigan)

25. Who of the following has NOT been a litigant before the High Court?

- A. Michael Crawford
- B. The Pope
- C. Walt Disney
- D. Robert Mitchum
- E. Derryn Hinch

(A. Michael Crawford)

26. When Justice Walsh died in 1973, Murphy proposed to Whitlam that a certain academic be appointed to the court. Who was that person?

- A. George Williams
- B. Tony Blackshield
- C. Geoffrey Sauer
- D. Colin Howard
- E. Zelman Cowen

(D. Colin Howard)

27. Justice McTiernan tripped in a hotel room in 1976 and broke his hip, leading ultimately to his retirement. What was he chasing at the time?

- A. A cricket
- B. A cockroach
- C. A mouse
- D. Sir Garfield Barwick
- E. A hotel maid

(A. A cricket)

28. Justice Callinan published a novel in 1996. The title of the novel was:

- A. Law and Liberty
- B. The Lawyer and the Libertarian
- C. The Lawyer and the Vegetarian
- D. The Lawyer and the Libertine
- E. Give me a Libertine or give me death

(D. The Lawyer and the Libertine)

29. There is one entry in the Companion devoted to an Australian film because of the connection between the theme of the film and the High Court. What is the film?

- A. Evil Angels
- B. Crocodile Dundee
- C. The Castle
- D. My Brilliant Career
- E. They're a Weird Mob

(C. The Castle)

30. Which High Court judge, before his appointment, was a cricket umpire, and umpired a match between NSW and a touring English team?

- A. Barton
- B. Piddington
- C. Taylor
- D. Menzies
- E. Gleeson

(A. Barton)

ANSWER SHEET