



MLAG THEME Tournament Rules 2019-20

- TH1** The following version of THEME is played at all levels.
- TH2** Players play in groups of three or four for purposes of scorekeeping. Scores of all players in a group are kept on a Score Sheet at the table. Each player has an individual answer/wager sheet.
- TH3** A total of 25-30 questions are played as follows:
- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Round 1 — | Lightning Round | 15-18 questions |
| Round 2 — | Wager Round | 10-12 questions |
- Questions are multiple-choice with four alternatives marked A,B,C or D. Only one of the four alternatives is correct as determined by reliable resources. Participants must use a non-erasable ink pen in recording all answers.
- TH4** Reference books are **NOT** permitted at the table. Questions are taken from reference books, i.e. historical reference texts on the chosen topic, *reliable* Internet-based sources, and other basic text references.
-  **TH5** The Theme for 2019-20 is **The Supreme Court: Now and Then**. See Theme outline for full listing of subtopics and scope.
- TH6** During the Lightning Round, students will be asked questions with assigned values of 2,4, or 6 points. It will be in a multiple choice format.
- TH7** During the Wager Round, a central reader announces one of the categories (listed in the outline below) before reading the question. Each player begins the round with 0 points. Before each question is read aloud, each player writes a wager of 2, 4, or 6 on his/her wager/answer sheet based on the category the central reader announces. All wagers at a table are revealed simultaneously, then recorded on a common score sheet before the question is read.
- TH8** For both rounds of THEME, the central reader reads aloud the question and the four alternative answers. The reader may read the question and alternatives twice and only twice. The question and choices are projected to the players via a central screen.
-  **TH9** While the question and alternative answers are being read aloud, players must put their pens down on the table. From the end of the second reading, each player has about 30 seconds to circle her/his answer on the wager/answer sheet. Students may pick up their non-erasable pen to make an answer only **AFTER** the second reading. Each player may circle one and only one answer per question. Marking out or changing an answer must be makes the answer automatically wrong.
- TH10** If a player is unsure of an answer or wishes not to answer on a question, he/she may **abstain** from answering during the Wager Round. To abstain, a player must **NOT** circle an answer choice (A-B-C-D), but circle ABS on the wager/answer sheet during the time allotted for answering. Each player may abstain no more than twice per round. If a player abstains on a question a third or more times, the player loses his/her wager for that question and receives the highest negative score (-3)
- TH11** Scoring for the Lightning Round:
Wagering is not permitted and there are **NO** abstentions during this round. The value of each questions (2,4 or 6 points) is announced by the central reader prior to the reading of the questions. If the player's choice is correct, the assigned point value is awarded. If the player's choice is incorrect, then no points are awarded. Players cannot lose points for

incorrect answers in the Lightning Round

TH12 Scoring for the Wager Round:

- a) If a player's answer agrees with the reader's, that player wins his/her wager (6,4, or 2)
- b) If a player's answer disagrees with the reader's, the player loses HALF of the wager. (-3,-2 or -1)
- c) If a player abstains, the player neither gains nor loses points, provided the player has not exceeded the abstention limit of two (see CE10).
- d) If a player is not at the table to answer a question, the player scores -4 for that question.

TH13 Play proceeds until all questions have been dealt with in a round. The ultimate winner in a Division is determined by the total number of points in both THEME rounds.

The Supreme Court

Now and Then

"We have a complex system of government. You have to teach it to every generation." ~
Sandra Day O'Connor, Supreme Court Justice

I. History of the Court

Players need to know how the U.S. Supreme Court became part of our government, how the federal appellate court system is set up, Court customs and procedures, changes to the Court over the years, numbers of justices, appointment process, calendar, choice of cases, and historical "firsts" involving the Court – including any of its Justices (whether listed below or not), the lawyers appearing before it, and the personnel working for it.

II. Justices

Players need to know specific information concerning the Justices listed below, including which president appointed / promoted the Justice, any controversies surrounding the appointment, number of years of service on the Court, and important rulings or influences. This category is not meant to be modeled after Presidents and will not include questions about other biographical information.

<i>CHIEF JUSTICES</i>		
John Jay	Morrison R. Waite	Fred M. Vinson
John Rutledge	Melville W. Fuller	Earl Warren
Oliver Ellsworth	Edward Douglass White	Warren E. Burger
John Marshall	William Howard Taft	William H. Rehnquist
Roger Brooke Taney	Charles Evans Hughes	John G. Roberts, Jr.
Salmon P. Chase	Harlan Fiske Stone	

<i>SELECT ASSOCIATE JUSTICES</i>		
William Paterson	Louis Brandeis	Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Samuel Chase	Hugo Black	Sonia Sotomayor
Joseph Story	Thurgood Marshall	Neil Gorsuch
Oliver Wendell Holmes	Sandra Day O'Connor	

III. People and the Stories

Questions will ask about the people involved and the underlying facts stated in the cases.

IV. Decisions

For the cases in each division, questions will ask the opposing viewpoints, the Constitutional connection, who wrote the majority opinion, the reasoning stated for the opinion, ramifications of the opinion on society, did the ruling withstand the test of time or was the ruling reversed. Junior/Senior division must also know the above information for their assigned dissents.

TOPIC	ELEMENTARY DIVISION CASES
Civil Rights	<i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i> , 60 U.S. 393 (1857)
	<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , 163 U.S. 537 (1896)
	<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 347 U.S. 483 (1954)
Federal Power	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i> , 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
Free Speech	<i>New York Times v. Sullivan</i> , 376 U.S. 254 (1964)
	<i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> , 393 U.S. 503 (1969)
Right to Counsel	<i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , 372 U.S. 335 (1963)
Search & Seizure	<i>New Jersey v. TLO</i> , 469 U.S. 325 (1985)
	<i>Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton</i> , 515 U.S. 646 (1995)
	<i>Riley v. California</i> , 573 U.S. 783, 134 S. Ct. 2473 (2014)
	<i>Carpenter v. United States</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018)
War Powers	<i>Korematsu v. United States</i> , 323 U.S. 214 (1944)
TOPIC	MIDDLE DIVISION CASES
Civil Rights	<i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i> , 60 U.S. 393 (1857)
	<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , 163 U.S. 537 (1896)
	<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 347 U.S. 483 (1954)
Federal Power	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i> , 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
	<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> , 17 U.S. 316 (1819)
	<i>Gibbons v. Ogden</i> , 22 U.S. 1 (1824)
Free Speech	<i>New York Times v. Sullivan</i> , 376 U.S. 254 (1964)
	<i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> , 393 U.S. 503 (1969)
	<i>Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission</i> , 558 U.S. 310 (2010)
Right to Counsel	<i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , 372 U.S. 335 (1963)
Search & Seizure	<i>New Jersey v. TLO</i> , 469 U.S. 325 (1985)
	<i>Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton</i> , 515 U.S. 646 (1995)
	<i>Kyllo v. United States</i> , 533 U.S. 27 (2001)
	<i>Riley v. California</i> , 573 U.S. 783, 134 S. Ct. 2473 (2014)
	<i>Carpenter v. United States</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018)
War Powers	<i>Korematsu v. United States</i> , 323 U.S. 214 (1944)

TOPIC	JUNIOR/SENIOR DIVISION CASES
Civil Rights	<i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i> , 60 U.S. 393 (1857) -plus McLean & Curtis's dissents
	<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , 163 U.S. 537 (1896) -plus Harlan's dissent
	<i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 347 U.S. 483 (1954)
	<i>Obergefell v. Hodges</i> , 135 S. Ct. 2584 (2015) - plus Roberts and Scalia's dissents
Federal Power	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i> , 5 U.S. 137 (1803)
	<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> , 17 U.S. 316 (1819)
	<i>Gibbons v. Ogden</i> , 22 U.S. 1 (1824)
Free Speech	<i>New York Times v. Sullivan</i> , 376 U.S. 254 (1964)
	<i>Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District</i> , 393 U.S. 503 (1969)
	<i>Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission</i> , 558 U.S. 310 (2010)
	<i>Janus v. American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2448 (2018)
Privacy Rights	<i>Griswold v. Connecticut</i> , 381 U.S. 479 (1965)
	<i>Roe v. Wade</i> , 410 U.S. 113 (1973) -plus Rehnquist and White's dissents (93 S. Ct. 762 – White's dissent)
Right to Counsel	<i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , 372 U.S. 335 (1963)
	<i>Miranda v. Arizona</i> , 384 U.S. 436 (1966)
Search & Seizure	<i>Mapp v. Ohio</i> , 367 U.S. 643 (1961)
	<i>New Jersey v. TLO</i> , 469 U.S. 325 (1985)
	<i>Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton</i> , 515 U.S. 646 (1995)
	<i>Kyllo v. United States</i> , 533 U.S. 27 (2001)
	<i>Riley v. California</i> , 573 U.S. 783, 134 S. Ct. 2473 (2014)
	<i>Carpenter v. United States</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018) - plus Kennedy and Gorsuch's dissents
War Powers	<i>Korematsu v. United States</i> , 323 U.S. 214 (1944) - plus Roberts, Murphy and Jackson's dissents
	<i>Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer</i> , 343 U.S. 579 (1952)
	<i>Trump v. Hawaii</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2392 (2018) -plus Sotomayor's dissent