

Supreme Court Case Summary Instructions (02/24/07)

DC Government

For each of the following Supreme Court Cases, supply the following information:

- Case name & Citation
- Date of case
- Short background of case
- Issue involved
- Court decision
- Significance or precedent set

You can link to summaries of these cases through my website. You may also find the following websites useful:

www.oyez.org/oyez/frontpage

Type one of the parties to the case in the "Search: window in the upper right corner.

<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/>

Use the search window just as you did on Oyez.

Cases to Cover (Cases are listed chronologically):

1. Marbury v Madison (1803)
2. McCulloch v Maryland (1819)
3. Gibbons v Ogden (1824)
4. Scott v Sanford (1857)
5. Plessy v Ferguson (1896)
6. Schenck v U.S. (1919)
7. Gitlow v New York (1925)
8. Near v Minnesota (1931)
9. Brown v The Board of Education (1954)
10. Mapp v Ohio (1961)
11. Baker v Carr (1962)
12. Gideon v Wainwright (1963)
13. Wesberry v Sanders (1964)
14. Griswold v Connecticut (1965)
15. Miranda v Arizona (1966)
16. Brandenburg v Ohio (1969)
17. Lemon v Kurtzman (1971)
18. Roe v Wade (1973)
19. Regents of the University of California v Bakke (1977)
20. Texas v Johnson (1989)
21. Virginia v U.S. (1995)
22. Reno v American Civil Liberties Union (1996)
23. Shaw v Hunt (1996)
24. Printz v U.S. (1997)
25. Clinton v City of New York (1998)
26. Bush v Gore (2000)
27. Santa Fe Independent School District v Doe (2000)

What to Do:

Type your summaries in chronological order. No need to double space. Do not cut and paste out of the websites. Use your own words, not legal terms. There will be a test over these cases in a couple of weeks. You may use this information on the test.

Grading:

-Cover Sheet	10 points
-Completeness & accuracy of Info	70 points
-Understandability of Info	20 points

Sample Court Case:

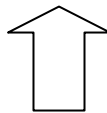
8. **Near v Minnesota (1931) 283 U.S. 697**

Background: Near published the Saturday Press, a newspaper that attacked local officials. The county attorney invoked a Minnesota “gag law” that prevented the publication of anything “malicious, scandalous, & defamatory”. Near sued, saying it violated his 1st Amendment right to free speech.

Issue: 1st Amendment right to freedom of the press, and the 14th Amendment which applied the liberty to states.

Decision: The Court ruled that the law violated the right to free press. The ruling is based on the idea that an intent to publish something that might be criminal if published is not a crime until actually printed.

Significance or Precedent: Prior restraint, freedom of the press.



**Feel free to use
this sample in
your paper.**