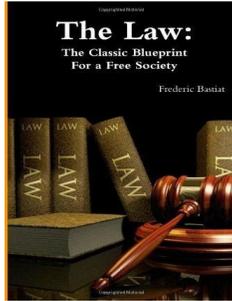




12th Grade Summer History Assignment



The Law by Frederic Bastiat **The Classic Blueprint for a Free Society** ISBN-13: 978-1614270577

There are several other versions and ISBNs that are acceptable

You can also read for free online at http://bastiat.org/en/the_law.html or <https://mises.org/sites/default/files/thelaw.pdf>

Bastiat's most famous work is *The Law*, originally published as a pamphlet in 1850. It defines, through development, a just system of laws and then demonstrates how such law facilitates a free society. In *The Law*, he wrote that everyone has a right to protect "his person, his liberty, and his property". The State should be only a "substitution of a common force for individual forces" to defend this right. "Justice" (defense of one's life, liberty, property) has precise limits, but if government power extends further, into philanthropic endeavors, government becomes so limitless that it can grow endlessly. The resulting statism is "based on this triple hypothesis: the total inertness of mankind, the omnipotence of the law, and the infallibility of the legislator." The public then becomes socially-engineered by the legislator and must bend to the legislators' will "like the clay to the potter"

As a 12th grade student, you will be taking a course in government and economics. This assignment will prepare you for this endeavor and give us a jump start and overview of many of the concepts and ideas that are germane to our country's founding and continue to be critical to the perpetuation of a free people.



12th Grade Summer History Assignment:

- Read “The Law”.
- Obtain a 70-page spiral-bound notebook that you will use as a response journal for this book.
- You will have 30 total entries in your notebook. Start each new entry on the front side of a separate piece of paper in your notebook, making sure there is a heading for each new entry.

Bastiat covers many topics within the pages of this short book.

- As you read, write an entry that defines a topic and also gives your thoughts.
- Again, you will need at least 30 entries in your notebook.
- This assignment is due August 31st – our first day back to school.

Think of your response journal as a conversation with yourself. You can record what you already knew, what you found interesting, what you feel passionate about, what you still do not completely understand, questions that you may have for your teacher when you return to school, etc. In-depth responses will also reflect on the reading in light of the current state of our society. Do you see these principles in action today? Are we in danger of losing these principles altogether? Have fun with your responses and THINK DEEPLY! Do not just summarize the reading – your teachers know what it says; we want to know what you think after digesting these concepts.

If you have any questions, please email Ms. Carrier at dcarrier@ascentclassical.org or Dr. Wilkinson at kwilkinson@ascentclassical.org