Legal Research & Writing
Section Z-1 - Conner
Court Systems and
Sources of Law Quiz

Part A: Court Systems

1. In a sentence or two, summarize the role of courts in our justice system.

_____________________________________________________________________________

2. Briefly explain the hierarchy between federal and state courts in our justice system.

_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

3. What is the “Supremacy Clause” and what does it mean?

_____________________________________________________________________________

4. The role of a trial court is

_____________________________________________________________________________

5. The role of an appellate court is

_____________________________________________________________________________

6. Fill in the names of the courts in each system listed below.

Federal courts:

Highest appellate court: __________________________

Intermediate appellate court: __________________________

Trial court: __________________________

Georgia courts:

Highest appellate court: __________________________

Intermediate appellate court: __________________________

Trial court of general jurisdiction: __________________________
Part B: Legal Authority

7. What is primary authority? _____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

8. Name 3 examples of primary authority: a. ______________________________
   b. ______________________________
   c. ______________________________

9. What is secondary authority? ________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

10. Name 3 examples of secondary authority: a. _________________________________
    b. _________________________________
    c. _________________________________

Part C: Practical Applications

11. Name 3 sources of law that are always binding on a federal circuit court of appeals:
    a. ___________________________________
    b. ___________________________________
    c. ___________________________________

12. Name 3 sources of state law that are binding on a court of that state:
    a. _________________________________
    b. _________________________________
    c. _________________________________
13. Indicate whether each statement below is true or false.

______ a. An opinion from the Supreme Court of Alabama is binding on all state courts in Alabama.

______ b. All opinions from the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals are binding on all courts in Georgia since Georgia is part of the Eleventh Circuit.

______ c. The Clarke County Superior Court (the trial court of general jurisdiction for Athens, Georgia) is bound by the opinions of the Georgia Supreme Court as well as by Georgia Court of Appeals opinions.

______ d. An opinion from the Supreme Court of South Carolina is binding on the trial courts of both North Carolina and South Carolina.

______ e. A section from the Restatement (3d) of Agency would be binding on a trial court in Georgia only if it directly addressed the issue presented to the court.

14. For each source below indicate whether it is a primary (P) or secondary source (S), as well as whether it is binding (B) or persuasive (P) on the indicated court.

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<th>Primary or Secondary?</th>
<th>Binding or Persuasive?</th>
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______ ________ a. An opinion from the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia when considered by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

______ ________ b. An opinion by the Florida Supreme Court when considered by the Alabama Court of Appeals.

______ ________ c. A Georgia statute when considered by the Georgia Supreme Court.

______ ________ d. A very recent article in the *Georgia Law Review* addressing a specific question of statutory interpretation when considered by a trial court in Georgia determining that specific question.

______ ________ e. An opinion from the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals when considered by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.
Bonus question:

In which federal district and federal circuit is Athens, Ga. located?

Federal District Court for _________________________________________________________

Circuit Court of Appeals for the __________________________________________________