

LANDMARK SUPREME COURT CASES RUBRIC

CASE NAME + DATE 	
CONSTITUTIONAL CONNECTION  (amendments/clauses)	
KEY FACTS 	
BIG QUESTION 	
COURT HOLDING 	
IMPACT OF CASE  (precedent)	
CONNECTIONS  (related cases)	
REMEMBER  Create a <u>mnemonic</u> , or visualize the case with stick figures, symbols, emojis, or images.	

 Required Supreme Court Cases

LANDMARK SUPREME COURT CASES RUBRIC

CASE NAME + DATE 	<u>GIDEON v. WAINWRIGHT</u> (1963) Landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in which the Court ruled that the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution requires U.S. states to provide attorneys to criminal defendants who are unable to afford their own.
CONSTITUTIONAL CONNECTION  (amendments/clauses)	<u>6th Amendment</u> - right to a fair trial + <u>14th Amendment</u> - equal protection under the law
KEY FACTS 	Clarence Earl Gideon was charged in Florida state court with felony breaking and entering. When he appeared in court without a lawyer, Gideon requested that the court appoint one for him. According to Florida state law, however, an attorney may only be appointed to an indigent defendant in capital cases, so the trial court did not appoint one. Gideon represented himself in trial. He was found guilty and sentenced to five years in prison. Gideon filed a habeas corpus petition in the Florida Supreme Court, arguing that the trial court's decision violated his constitutional right to be represented by counsel.
BIG QUESTION 	Does the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel in criminal cases extend to felony defendants in state courts?
COURT HOLDING 	9-0 The Sixth Amendment's guarantee of a right to assistance of counsel applies to criminal defendants in state court through the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
IMPACT OF CASE  (precedent)	Since the Gideon ruling, defendants in all state courts have the right to a court appointed and state funded lawyer. Gideon was appointed a lawyer who argued his case. Gideon won his trial and after two years in jail was released.
CONNECTIONS  (related cases)	Overturned <u>Betts v. Brady</u> (1942) a case which ruled that states were not required to appoint counsel to all cases.
REMEMBER  Create a <u>mnemonic</u> , or visualize the case with stick figures, symbols, emojis, or images.	GIDEON = Get Indigent Defendants Equal (legal) Opportunity Now  (or at least, GET LAWYER FREE)