Holes by Louis Sachar: Book Club on February 21, 2023

Mock Trial

During the book club meeting, we will be conducting a mock trial for Stanley's case. Participants will either serve as the prosecutor or Stanley's lawyer (randomly assigned).

Please prepare for this case by gathering evidence from the book. If necessary, you may request a witness to support your arguments.

Read the details of the Larceny Law, specifically pertaining to the theft of personal property:

According to the federal law, larceny is defined by four elements:

- 1. The defendant wrongfully took property.
- 2. The property did not belong to them.
- 3. They did not have the consent of the property owner.
- 4. They intended to permanently deprive the owner of their property.

The prosecutor's role is to demonstrate that the defendant (the accused) meets all the elements of the crime of larceny. The defense, on the other hand, must prove that one or more of the elements are not satisfied. They can argue:

- 1. The accused did not wrongfully take the property.
- 2. The accused had the right to possess the property.
- 3. The accused found lost of misplaced property.
- 4. The stolen property was illicit.

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Legal Writing #1: Police Report

Stanley was accused of stealing the baseball shoes. Write a charging document as if you were the police. Give evidence to support the charge.

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Legal Writing #2: Lawyer's Statement

Stanley has been accused of stealing the baseball shoes. Write a statement as if you were his lawyer. Present your own logical arguments to refute the police's charge against him.