

## Mr. & Ms. Law 2026

### 1. Right to Remain Silent

**Answer:**

The Constitution gives me the right to remain silent, but law school reminds me that growth begins when we choose to speak. Every recitation is not a trial—it's training for the lawyer I aspire to become. I'd rather answer imperfectly than stay silent perfectly, because success isn't measured by never making mistakes, but by having the courage to learn from them.

🗨️ **Punchline:** After all, the loudest objection to ignorance is the willingness to learn.

### 2. Funeral Bouquet

**Answer:**

Under customary law, Your Honor, customs are upheld only when they promote order, dignity, and public policy. Throwing the bouquet at a wedding symbolizes the hopeful anticipation of the next marriage. Applying the same custom at a funeral would create an absurd and undesirable precedent, as no one wishes to be presumed as 'next in line.' Hence, by the doctrine of public policy and common sense, the custom is wisely confined to weddings. In law, as in life, not every tradition is transferable."

### 3. Exception to the General Rule

**Answer:**

I would say, 'You are the exception to the general rule,' to my mother. In law, the general rule is that justice must be blind and impartial. But at home, a mother's love is the exception—it sees every flaw, yet chooses to forgive; it knows every failure, yet never stops believing. Just as the law recognizes exceptions when equity and justice demand them, a mother's love reminds us that some exceptions do not weaken the rule—they give it its humanity."

### 4. Manggagantso

**Answer:**

In Criminal Law, Your Honor, *magulang* refers to one's parents, while *manggagantso* refers to a swindler. Legally speaking, they are not related by blood, affinity, or adoption. However, if I may borrow from common Filipino humor, a *manggagantso* becomes 'kamag-anak' of *magulang* only when he takes advantage of the elderly through fraud. In that case, the relationship is not familial but criminal, making the swindler answerable under the law—not as a relative, but as an accused.

### 5. No Readings

**Answer:**

If the decision is final and executory, excuses have already prescribed. My only remedy is humility, preparation, and a promise to come back stronger. Because the best lawyer isn't the one who never loses—it's the one who never stops learning.

### 6. Mandamus and Crush

**Answer:**

Your Honor, Mandamus will not prosper. Love is discretionary, not ministerial. No court has jurisdiction to order genuine affection, because consent cannot be legislated and feelings cannot be enforced. Thus, instead of filing a Petition for Mandamus, I respectfully move to dismiss my expectations—without prejudice to finding someone who willingly grants my petition.

## 7. Motion for Reconsideration

### Answer:

Your Honor, if I could file a Motion for Reconsideration in life, I would ask for reconsideration not of my failures, but of the moments when fear made my decisions for me. In law, a Motion for Reconsideration is granted only upon showing that the court overlooked or misapprehended significant facts or law. Likewise, I would ask life to reconsider those moments when I overlooked my own potential. Because while the law teaches us that some judgments become final, life teaches us that every new day is another opportunity to render a better decision.

## 8. New Holiday

### Answer:

I would create National Kindness Day because compassion is the one celebration the world can never have too much of. Because I believed that Kindness is the only holiday that should never end.

## 9. Love as a Contract

### Answer:

Love is void without sincerity, voidable when respect is missing, and rescissible when it harms others. Genuine love is founded on trust. After all, the strongest contract is still the one signed by two faithful hearts.

## 10. Nine Lives

### Answer:

Even with nine lives, I would still have one identity because integrity should never change. Because a meaningful life is measured by purpose—not by the number of chances we get.

## 11. Restroom Summons

### Answer:

Your Honor, the service is invalid. While the professor may have acquired jurisdiction over the classroom, they did not acquire jurisdiction over me inside the restroom. Besides, between the summons of my professor and the summons of nature, the latter is immediately executory.

## 12. Bagsakan

### Answer:

Your Honor, *Bagsakan* is a Miranda hit, but not a Miranda right. One tells you to enjoy the music; the other tells you that anything you say may be used against you in court. In short, one belongs on the playlist, the other belongs in the police station.

## 13. Confessing Feelings

### Answer:

Your Honor, legally speaking, there is no prescriptive period for confessing one's feelings, because love is not an offense that extinguishes by the lapse of time. However, as a matter of practical reality, opportunities do prescribe. Delay too long, and someone else may acquire vested rights over the person's heart. Thus, while the law imposes no deadline for a confession, life often does. The safest rule is to file your declaration while the court of the heart still has jurisdiction.

## 14. Acts of Service

### Answer:

Your Honor, Acts of Service should not be subject to VAT because they generate no taxable income—only unforgettable memories. The moment you start charging for them, they cease to be a love language and become a business. And in love, unlike taxation, the best returns come from giving without expecting anything in return.

## 15. Waiting for Crush

### Answer:

Your Honor, overtime pay cannot be computed because the essential element of an employer-employee relationship is absent. I rendered services beyond regular hours, but my crush neither hired me nor authorized the overtime. Therefore, my claim must be dismissed for lack of legal basis—although the emotional damages continue to accrue without limit.

## 16. Affidavit vs Gossip

### Answer:

Your Honor, I would choose my best friend's affidavit. A screenshot of gossip may win likes on social media, but an affidavit carries the solemnity of an oath. After all, justice is decided by evidence—not by the comment section.

## 17. Nosi Ba Lasi

### Answer:

Your Honor, if *Nosi Ba Lasi* were a Latin maxim, I would interpret it to mean: '*He who knows, but says nothing.*' In law, silence may at times be a right, but it can also speak volumes. Like the famous song, the phrase reminds us that what is left unsaid often creates more speculation than what is openly declared. Thus, *Nosi Ba Lasi* would stand for the principle that silence, while lawful, should never be mistaken for the absence of truth.

## 18. Utang na Loob

### Answer:

Your Honor, if *Utang na Loob* were codified, it should be an imperfect obligation. It may bind the conscience, but not the courts. Prescription extinguishes legal remedies, but true gratitude is not measured by calendars or statutes of limitation. It is remembered not because the law commands it, but because character chooses it.

## 19. Petition for Inclusion

### Answer:

Your Honor, I would respectfully decline to file a Petition for Inclusion. There is no violation of due process, no denial of equal protection, and no cause of action merely because my name was omitted from *Bahay Kubo*. Besides, the best way to earn inclusion is not through litigation, but by proving that I belong. In life, as in law, merit often speaks louder than a petition.

## 20. Petsa de Peligro

### Answer:

Your Honor, *Petsa de Peligro* would be celebrated on the eve of every payday, when wallets invoke the privilege against self-incrimination because they contain no evidence of money. It would remind us that while financial resources may temporarily run out, the Filipino spirit never does. Indeed, the only thing richer than our wallets on payday is our optimism throughout *Petsa de Peligro*.

## 21. Teddy Corpus and Habeas Corpus

### Answer:

Your Honor, Teddy Corpus is related to *habeas corpus* only linguistically, not legally. Teddy gives us good music, while *habeas corpus* gives us constitutional protection against unlawful detention. In short, one ensures you don't miss the concert; the other ensures you don't miss your freedom.

## 22. Situationship

### Answer:

Your Honor, I would recognize three fundamental rights in a situationship: the right to know where you stand, the right not to be led on, and the right to timely resolution. Justice delayed is justice denied—and in matters of the heart, delayed clarity often causes the greatest injury. Therefore, if love cannot yet be declared, at the very least, the status should.

## 23. The Moon

### Answer:

Your Honor, no. In law, *nemo dat quod non habet*—no one can give what one does not have. Since no person can own the Moon, no person can legally donate it. So, if someone promises me the Moon, I will not test their title—I will simply appreciate the intention. Because in love, the most valuable promises are not those that are impossible to fulfill, but those that are faithfully kept.

## 24. Love, Friendship, or Estafa

### Answer:

Your Honor, I would not immediately call it *estafa* because criminal liability requires proof beyond reasonable doubt. But if my crush only appears whenever they need a favor, I would respectfully classify the relationship as a gratuitous contract—with all the obligations on my side and all the benefits on theirs. The wiser remedy is not to file a criminal case, but to terminate the unequal arrangement and invest where appreciation is mutual.

25. If my crush remembers me only every Valentine's Day, then, with due respect, it may indeed resemble seasonal employment. However, under the principles of fairness and consistent engagement, one isolated day of recognition does not establish a regular relationship. Therefore, while the appointment may be valid every February 14, it automatically expires thereafter for lack of continuity. In conclusion, I humbly submit that my heart deserves regularization, not contractualization.