

Law pre-course Task

1. Matching exercise of key terms below. Please write or type out with spaces for additions during the year (see below)
2. Choose one of these options:
 - Go and sit in on a session at Weymouth Magistrates' court- just turn up, sit in and watch
 - Read one of the recommended books listed below (after the matching exercise)

Match the following terms with the definitions. You will need to do some Googling, or go to the library.

Actus Reus	Jurisdiction	Parliamentary supremacy
Appeal	Juror	Precedent
Civil law	Jury	Remedy
Common law	Lay people	Ratio Decidendi
Consideration	Magistrate	Stare Decisis
Damages	Mens rea	Statute
Doctrine	Obiter Dicta	Statutory interpretation
Express term	Offence	Subjective recklessness
Green papers	Omission	Tort law
Guilty	Parliamentary supremacy	Transferred malice
Implied term	Precedent	White papers
Oblique intention		

A necessary element of any binding contract; conferring a benefit to the other party, or suffering some detriment or forbearance, in order to legally secure the agreement.

The defendant foresees that the consequence of their actions is virtually certain.

A rule within a contract which is not explicit but is read into the contract either by the courts, to reflect the true intentions of the parties to the contract, or by statute.

Used to gain views about proposed legislation from interested bodies; an initial consultation document, responses to which may or may not be acted upon.

A rule within a contract made explicit; either written or verbal.

Monetary compensation awarded by a court.

A court's verdict that the person charged with a crime is legally responsible for that crime.

Failure to perform an act; inaction.

The law developed mainly from judicial decisions based on precedent as opposed to statute; synonymous with case law.

Latin: 'the guilty mind'.

A member of a jury.

A legal rule or principle.

Individuals involved with the legal process but without legal qualifications, eg magistrates and jurors.

The territory in which a court can operate and the power it has to deal with particular cases.

The system of law concerned with private interactions between members of a community; rather than criminal law.

A group of people selected to reach a verdict in a legal case, based upon the evidence presented and instructions on the relevant law.

An act or omission which contravenes the criminal law.

Latin: 'to stand by things decided'. The principle that precedent should determine legal decision making in cases involving similar facts.

Parliament creates the highest form of law, which must be applied by the courts; Parliament can legislate on any matter and is not bound by its predecessors.

'Other things said'; comments and remarks not part of the legal rule.

Remedy is the means by which the contravention of a legal right is prevented, put right or compensated.

A judicial decision which binds equal or lower courts in its jurisdiction and which can be persuasive to higher courts in cases with similar facts.

Used to make clear Government's preferred approach to a future piece of legislation.

The legal reason for a decision; the rule established by the decision, binding on equal or lower courts.

A Justice of the Peace who presides over cases in the magistrates' court.

The process by which a more senior court reviews the decision of a lower court.

A binding piece of legislation, synonymous with Act.

The process by which courts interpret and apply legislation.

The defendant is aware of a risk but proceeds regardless.

Rights, obligations and remedies applied by civil courts to provide relief to individuals harmed by the unlawful conduct of others.

When the mens rea of one offence can be transferred to another offence.

Latin: 'the guilty act'.

Recommended Reads for Lawyers

The Murder of Billie-Jo by Sion Jenkins

Memories of a Radical Lawyer by Michael Mansfield

Provoked by Kiranjit Ahluwalia

Stolen Innocence by John Batt

Defending the Guilty by Alex McBride

A Right to Kill by John McVicar

Tony Martin and the Bleak House Tragedy by John Sanders

Kevin Callan's Story by Kevin Callan

The Justice Game by Geoffrey Robertson

The Children Act by Ian McEwan

My Father's Watch Patrick Maguire

My Brief Career by Harry Mount