

VOCABULARY FOR LAW

CHECK YOUR
VOCABULARY
FOR LAW

a workbook for users

by David Riley



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Introduction

THE WORKSHEETS IN this book are based on the Peter Collin *Dictionary of Law*. They contain a variety of exercises, all appropriate for students from the world of law. Most of them can be used either for self study or in the classroom.

The book is aimed at students with at least an intermediate level of English. However, many people who work with the law have to read in English on a regular basis. This means that you may find that lower level students already have the passive vocabulary to handle many of the worksheets.

Specialist vocabulary

Students will sometimes tell you that they have no problem with specialist vocabulary: “*I know the English of my job*”. It is not a good idea to take this statement at face value. It can mean that they understand the vocabulary of their job when they read it, in a report for example. But “knowing” vocabulary involves more than simply recognising it.

- You can understand the meaning of a word when reading or listening and yet be unable to remember when speaking or writing.
- You may remember the word, but use it incorrectly. This can be a grammatical problem, like knowing that “import” can be used both as a noun and as a verb. Or it may be a question of collocation: we pay *income* tax, not *revenue* tax.
- Then there is the question of the sound of the word. Can you pronounce it? And do you recognise it when you hear it pronounced?

For these reasons - memory, use and sound - it is important to give students a chance to practise specialist vocabulary so that they can learn to use it more confidently and effectively.

In some ways, specialist vocabulary is simpler than general vocabulary. It is rarely necessary to decide if a word is formal or informal in style. And most specialist terms have one single clearly defined meaning.

Contents

Useful verbs 1	3
Word Association 1	4
Word Association 2	5
Word Association 3	6
Pronunciation 1 - word stress	7
Opposites 1 - prefixes	8
Legal crossword 1	9
Anagrams 1	10
Navigating documents	11
Adjectives 1	12
Abbreviations	13
Opposites 2	14
Name the crime 1	15
Who’s speaking?	16
Useful verbs 2 - past tense	17
Pronunciation 2 - present tense	18
Prepositions	19
Name the crime 2 - defence	20
Useful verbs 3 - mixed tenses	21
Phrasal verbs	22
Pronunciation 3 - past tense	23
Odd one out	24
Pronunciation 4 - nouns & verbs	25
Latin pair-up	26
Legal crossword 2	27
Anagrams 2	28
Useful verbs 4 - mixed tenses	29
Adjectives 2	30
Politics	31
Multiple meanings	32
Test your criminal slang	33
Quiz	34
Vocabulary record sheet	35
<i>Pair Work</i>	
Communicative crossword 1	36
Communicative crossword 2	38
Communicative crossword 3	40
Answer key	42

“But I know nothing about law”

As a teacher you may be worried about trying to deal with terms which you are not confident with. There is a solution. All the vocabulary taught or practised in this book is in the Peter Collin “*Dictionary of Law*”. It gives definitions in simple English which students can read and understand. Many of the examples and definitions in the workbook are taken directly from the dictionary. Make sure you have a copy of the dictionary handy for students to consult and you should have no problems. Do not hesitate to refer students to a dictionary when they ask vocabulary questions: it is good learner training.

Photocopiable materials

All the worksheets can be legally photocopied to use in class, though if you intend to use most of the book with a class you will find it more convenient for them to buy a copy each. You are not allowed to photocopy or reproduce the front or back cover.

Extensions

The worksheets can be set as homework and then followed up in the classroom. Many of the worksheets have “extensions”: short classroom exercises based on the language in the main exercise.

Vocabulary Record Sheets

Encourage students to note the vocabulary they found useful at the end of each lesson, and to write example sentences showing how words are used and notes about meaning and pronunciation etc. Use photocopies of the “Vocabulary Record Sheet”, which you will find on page 35.

Communicative crosswords

At the end of the book there are three communicative crosswords. These are speaking exercises where students complete a half-finished crossword by exchanging clues with a partner. There are two versions of the crossword: A & B. The words which are missing from A are in B, and vice versa. No clues are provided: the students’ task is to invent them. This is an excellent exercise for developing linguistic resourcefulness.

If you have not previously used this type of exercise, a possible procedure is given below.

Stage 1 - Set up. Divide the class into A & B groups, with up to four students in each group. Give out photocopies of the crossword: sheet A

to group A, sheet B to group B. Give each group a copy of the dictionary. Go through the rules with them. Point out that some answers may consist of more than one word.

Stage 2 - Preparation. The students discuss the words in their

groups, exchanging information about the words they know and checking words they do not know in the dictionary.

Circulate, helping with any problems. This is an important stage: some of the vocabulary in the crosswords is quite difficult.

Stage 3 - Activity. Put the students in pairs - one from group A and one from group B.

The students help each other to complete the crosswords by giving each other clues.

Make sure they are aware that the idea is to *help* each other complete the crossword, rather than to produce obscure and difficult clues.

- *What’s one down?*
- *It’s a person who buys something*
- *A customer?*
- *No, it’s a customer who buys a service.*
- *A client?*
- *Yes, that’s right.*

Alternatively, students can work in small groups, each group consisting of two As and two Bs.

We hope you and your students enjoy using this collection of exercises.

A A		B B
A A		B B

Stage 2. Students work in groups, checking vocabulary.

A B		A B
A B		A B

Stage 3. Students work in pairs, co-operating to solve their crosswords

Useful verbs 1

ALL THE VERBS in the box relate to legal matters. Use them to complete the sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.

adjourn approve arbitrate bribe dismiss earn employ evict issue obligate
~~reach~~ recommend rescind testify withhold

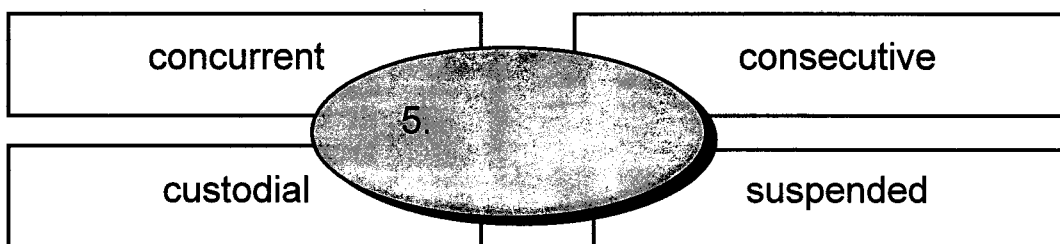
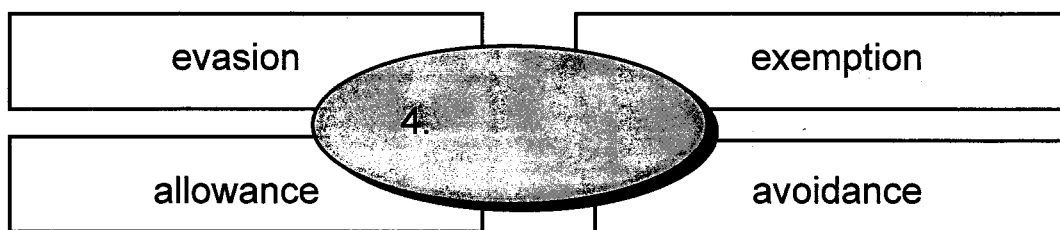
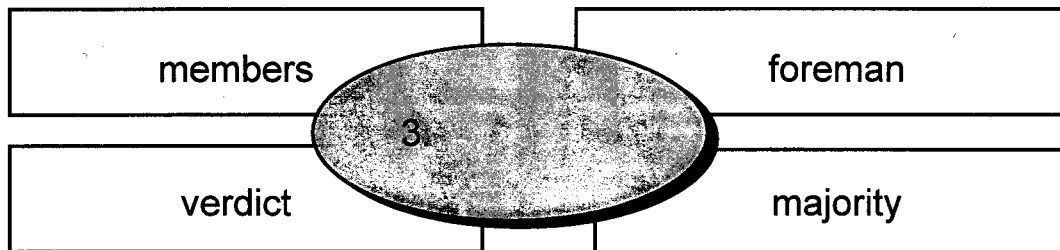
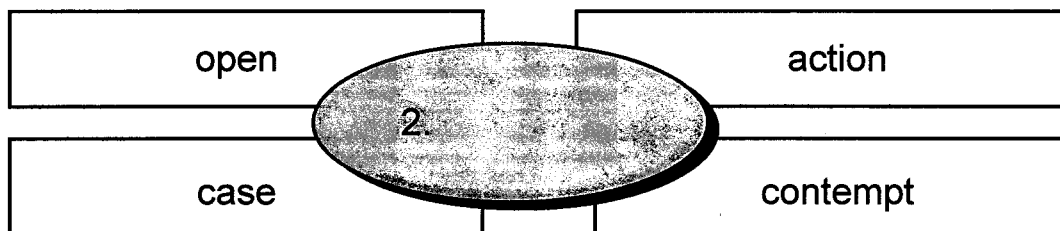
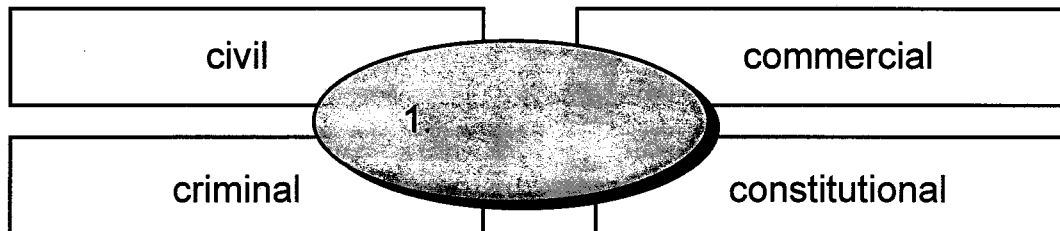
1. The jury was unable to reach a unanimous decision.
2. The new landlord has started proceedings to _____ all the tenants.
3. I am sure the board will _____ your proposal: it's just the sort of thing they're looking for at the moment.
4. The policeman warned him that it was illegal to _____ evidence.
5. How much dividend do these shares _____ ?
6. The minister was desperate and even tried to _____ the policeman to get the charges dropped.
7. Unfortunately the committee has had to _____ its earlier decision on the use of local government premises.
8. This tribunal will now _____ until tomorrow at ten a.m.
9. How many people does the company _____ ?
10. Are you ready to _____ in court that this is what happened ?
11. The company is going public and they are going to _____ 25,000 shares.
12. Do you realise that this contract will _____ you to buy a minimum quantity of goods each year?
13. This evidence is hearsay and I call upon the court to _____ it.
14. The prisoner's behaviour has been good and I am going to _____ him for parole.
15. The management and the union could not agree and they called in an industrial tribunal to _____

Extension. Choose five sentences and dictate them to a partner.

Word association 1

Missing links

EACH OF THE sets of four words below can be linked by one other word. All the words are to do with legal matters. What are the five missing link words? Write them in the centre of the charts. More than one answer may be correct, though you will find a suggested answer in the key.



Word association 2

Partnerships

SOME WORDS FORM “partnerships”. For example, we talk about *income tax* not *revenue tax*. Both forms are grammatically correct, but only the first is normally used.

Exercise 1. Match the verbs on the left with the nouns on the right to make ten partnerships. Some verbs will go with more than one noun; different answers are given in the key

VERBS	NOUNS
1. break	a case
2. commit	a market
3. cross examine	a fee
4. charge	an interest
5. declare	a law
6. enter	a crime
7. evade	a verdict
8. hear	terms
9. negotiate	a witness
10. return	taxes

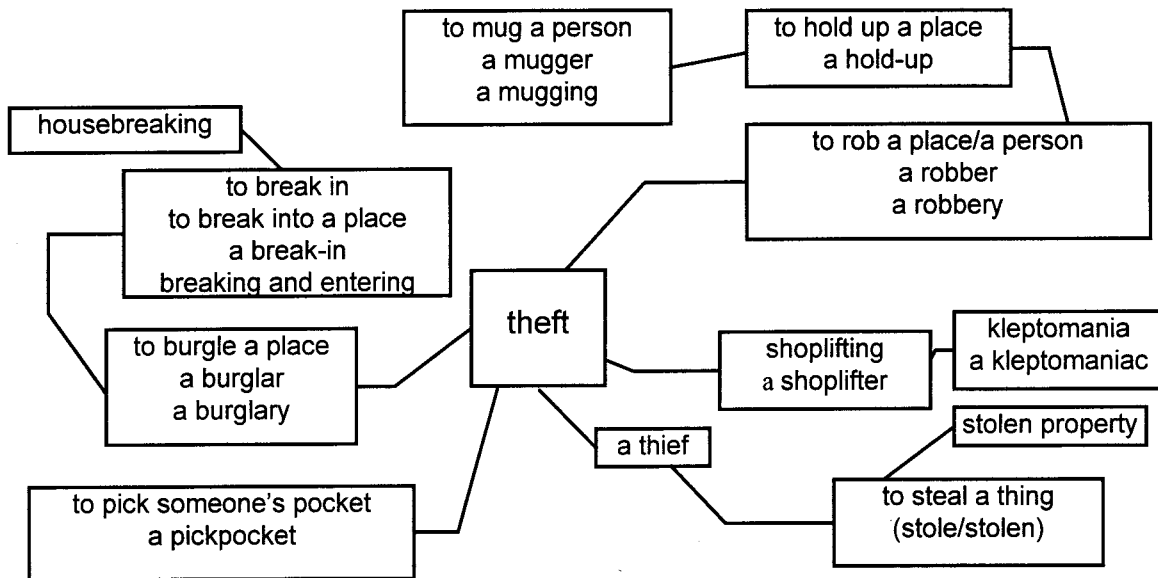
Exercise 2. Complete these sentences using the partnerships from the first exercise. You may have to make some changes to fit the grammar of the sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. You must know that you are breaking the law when you park on the pavement.
2. The merger will only go ahead if the two companies can _____ they are both happy with..
3. After two hours deliberation the jury _____ of not guilty.
4. We are going to _____ with a revolutionary new product next month.
5. A good accountant can save you money by finding ways to _____.
6. We have _____ for the prosecution, which depends on an unreliable identification.
7. When she was _____ he contradicted his earlier testimony.
8. I am innocent; I did not _____ you accuse me of.
9. During the recent debate on this matter Mr Allen failed to _____ : he is a director of the company bidding for the contract.
10. Most solicitors do not _____ for the first consultation.

Word association 3

Mind maps

A MIND MAP is a way of organising vocabulary to show the connections between words. This mind map is based on the word “theft”.



Exercise 1. Find words in the mind map which fit these definitions.

1. The past participle of the verb *steal*.
2. A person who enters a house to steal things.
3. To steal something from a person on the street without their noticing
4. To stop a person on the street and using violence or threats to rob him or her
5. Going into a building by force to steal things (one word)
6. A person who steals from a shop
7. A psychological compulsion to steal things
8. A person who commits an act of theft
9. To rob a place, usually by using with guns or other weapons
10. Things obtained by robbery

Exercise 2. Design a mind map for one or more of the following:

- the stock exchange
- tax
- the courtroom.

Pronunciation 1

Word stress

ALL ENGLISH WORDS with more than one syllable have a stress: one syllable which is emphasised more than the others. There are three possible patterns for three-syllable words. Look at these examples and practise saying them.

1. Stress on the first syllable ①②③	For example: <i>cri-mi-nal</i> ; <i>occ-u-pant</i> ; <i>le-gis-late</i>
2. Stress on the second syllable ①②③	For example: <i>fi-nan-cial</i> ; <i>co-llec-tion</i> ; <i>ex-po-sure</i>
3. Stress on the third syllable ①②③	For example: <i>le-ga-tee</i> ; <i>dis-po-ssess</i> ; <i>con-tra-vene</i>

Read the conversations below and find all the three-syllable words. Underline them and classify them in the groups on the right. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Conversation 1

- Have you seen the evidence? It looks very strong.
- Yes, but we still expect an acquittal.
- Do you really think she's innocent?
- Wait until you see the forensic report.

Conversation 2

- I hear the Appeal Court disapproved of the decision.
- Yes, they said that the indictment was incorrect.
- What's Jack's opinion?
- Oh, he's very upset.

Conversation 3

- Would you recommend buying shares in Giant Plc?
- No. Their performance has been poor lately. There are better companies.
- For example?
- I've made a selection for you to consider. Let me give you a copy.

Conversation 4

- Have you heard about Giant? One of their employees embezzled over £200,000 in six months.
- No. Who was it?
- They don't know yet but it may have been the director of the accounts department.
- Do you think they'll prosecute?

Conversation 5

- Look at this. Another case of government corruption.
- Is that the thing about the Minister for the Arts?
- No, it's the Treasury Secretary. He's been accused of insider trading.
- What are the details?

GROUP 1 ①②③

- 1. evidence
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

GROUP 2 ①②③

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.

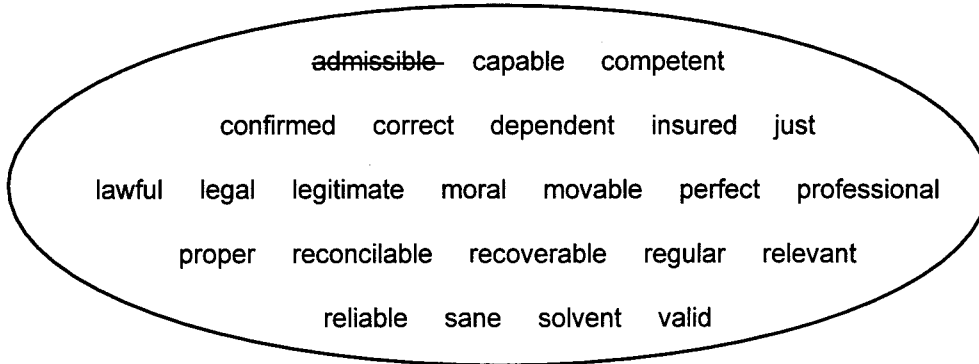
GROUP 3 ①②③

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Extension. Work with a partner. Practise the conversations

Opposites 1 - prefixes

ENGLISH OFTEN USES prefixes to create opposites. There are several different prefixes which are used. Choose the right prefixes for each of the adjectives in the box and write it into the table. The first one has been done for you: evidence which is *inadmissible* will not be accepted (admitted) by a court.



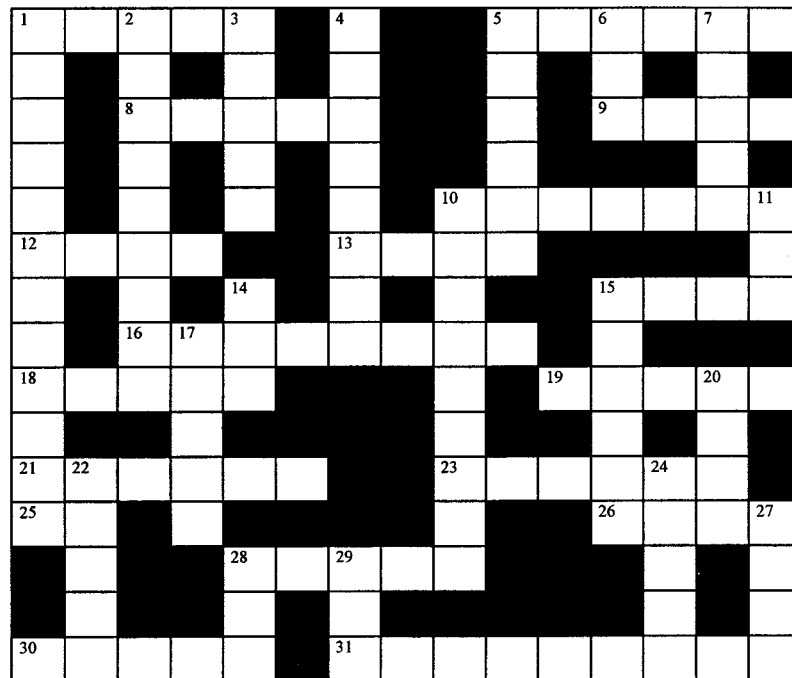
il-	im-	in-	ir-	un-
1.	1.	1. <i>inadmissible</i>	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.	2.	2.
	3.	3.	3.	3.
	4.	4.	4.	4.
		5.		5.
		6.		6.
		7.		
		8.		

Exercise 2.

Use twelve of the adjectives in the table to complete these sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.

- Hearsay evidence - evidence which a witness has heard from another source - is *inadmissible* in a court of law.
- Can you check these accounts? Some of the figures seem to be _____.
- The witness was completely _____ : she kept changing her story.
- It is _____ for a lawyer to enter into personal relations with a client.
- We returned the goods to the supplier because they were _____.
- That's very interesting, but _____ : can you please comment only on this case?
- There are rumours of a takeover, but they are still _____.
- It is _____ to sell tobacco without a licence.
- He could not pay his debts and was declared _____.
- This document is _____ without the signature of a witness.
- The director of the company has left the country permanently and I'm afraid the debt is now _____.
- At twenty-one she left home and became _____.

Legal crossword 1



Across

1. To mention or write about something - "We _____ to your letter of May 26th" (5)
5. To take something which is being offered - to say yes (6)
8. The place where a trial is held (5)
9. Wrong done to someone (4)
10. Separate into sections - "The two companies _____ the market between them" (7)
12. One hour, two weeks, half past two... (4)
13. To encourage someone to commit a crime - "To aid and _____" (4)
15. Twelve people who must decide (4)
16. People who succeed to an inheritance
18. _____ after/by/for/from/in..(5)
19. Older than eighteen (5)
21. To be against something - "The police have decided to _____ your application for bail." (6)
23. Decide the value - "I _____ this company as being worth £1bn." (7)
25. Opposite of yes (2)
26. John married my mother after her divorce: he's my _____-father" (4)
28. Before second (5)
30. Independent nation - say clearly (5)
31. Innocent (3,6)

Down

1. Placing on an official list - " _____ of a trademark" (12)
2. An exact copy of a document - possibly electronically transmitted (9)
3. Unfair, inexact, approximate: "This is a case of _____ justice." (5)
4. A person who brings a lawsuit against another (8)
5. Opposite of convict: " _____, the jury decided to _____ the defendant because there was insufficient evidence" (6)
6. To reduce suddenly - "We are going to _____ all our prices by 25%" (3)
7. Latin expression meaning "by itself" (3,2)
10. The person accused of the crime - the person who is sued (9)
11. Twenty-four hours (3)
14. The number of years a person has been alive (3)
15. Decides (5)
17. Mistake (5)
20. Not to win (3)
22. "That's an interesting _____, but I don't agree with your argument." (5)
24. To take something which is not yours (5)
27. To ask - very formally (4)
28. Money paid for a service (3)
29. To manage - "After my father dies I'll _____ the company" (3)

Anagrams 1

READ THE DEFINITIONS and put the letters in order to make fifteen words connected with the law. Write the words in the grid to find the mystery phrase. The first one has been done for you: an *accomplice* is a person who helps another person perform a criminal act.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Criminal's assistant..... | ACCCEILMOP |
| 2. The ways to do it..... | CDEEOPRRSU |
| 3. Money invested or borrowed on which interest is paid | ACIILNPPR |
| 4. Fair and just for all parties | ABEEILQUTU |
| 5. Wanting or planning to do something..... | EIINNNOTT |
| 6. Not permanent..... | AEMOPRRTY |
| 7. A date and a time to meet | AEIMNNOPTT |
| 8. System for giving money to the government..... | AAINOTTX |
| 9. Agreement to lend money to buy a house..... | AEGGMORT |
| 10. Postponed, delayed, changed to a later date..... | DDEEEFRR |
| 11. The way it was done on an earlier occasion..... | CDEEENPRT |
| 12. Not serious | FILOORSUV |
| 13. Living in a property | ACCCNOPUY |
| 14. Relating to a company | ACEOOPRRT |
| 15. The rules of politeness..... | EEEIQTTTU |

1.		A	C	C	O	M	P	L	I	C	E	
2.												
3.												
4.												
5.												
6.												
7.												
8.												
9.												
10.												
11.												
12.												
13.												
14.												
15.												

Mystery Phrase: impolite - in a legal context

Navigating documents

Legal adverbs

THERE ARE ADVERBS which are typical of legal documents. In fact, some of them are *only* used in legal documents. They are used to refer clearly to specific times and places in and around documents. Most are formed using *here* and *there*

Here means this document - the one you are reading

There means that document - the one which is being discussed, not the one you are reading

Some adverbs with *here* and *there* are listed below. Match them to the correct definitions. The first one has been done for you as an example: *hereafter* is used to talk about future time: what will happen after the document is written and signed: "*The house will hereafter be the property of Mr Jackson*".

Here

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. hereafter | accompanying this document |
| 2. hereby | appearing somewhere in this document |
| 3. herein | following this document |
| 4. hereinafter | in the future - from the production of this document on |
| 5. hereof | listed later in this document |
| 6. hereto | mentioned in this same section of this document |
| 7. heretofore | previous to the production of this document |
| 8. herunder | relating to this document or part of it |
| 9. herewith | resulting from this document |

There

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. thereafter | accompanying that document |
| 2. thereby | appearing somewhere in that document |
| 3. therefore | following that document |
| 4. therein | for that reason or purpose |
| 5. thereafter | from the production of that document until now |
| 6. thereinbefore | in the time before that document was produced |
| 7. thereinunder | listed later in that document |
| 8. thereof | mentioned in that section of that document |
| 9. thereto | mentioned previously in that document |
| 10. theretofore | relating to that document |
| 11. therewith | resulting from that document or decision |

Adjectives 1

ALL THE ADJECTIVES in the box are connected with legal matters. Use them to complete the sentences. The first one has been done for you: a *preliminary hearing* is held before a court case to determine if the whole case should be tried or just some issues.

bankrupt civil concurrent consecutive exemplary exempt flagrant
germane hostile intentional joint liable out-of-court overdue preliminary

1. After the preliminary hearing the judge decided that it was not necessary to try the whole case.
2. Although it was her first case her conduct of it was _____ and she was complimented by the judge.
3. As chairman he was personally _____ for the company's debts.
4. Before leaving the country, the husband took all the money from their _____ bank account.
5. Giant Inc has offered £500,000 compensation and they are hoping to reach an _____ settlement this week.
6. He was given two _____ jail sentences of six months in December, so he will be free by June at the latest.
7. He will obviously be found guilty, it is a _____ case of corruption.
8. His business was unsuccessful and after only two years he was _____.
9. Interest payments on the debt are three weeks _____ and must be paid immediately.
10. Mr and Mrs Lewes brought a _____ action against the airline for ruining their holiday.
11. Non-profit making organisations are _____ from tax.
12. The defendant's wife was ruled a _____ witness by the judge and cross-examined by the defence.
13. The prosecution claimed that their abusive treatment of the child was an act of _____ cruelty and not simply the result of a momentary passion.
14. They were given two _____ jail sentences of two years, so they will be in prison for up to four years.
15. Your argument is not _____ to the motion and I suggest we return to the business in hand.

Extension. Choose five of the sentences and dictate them to a partner.

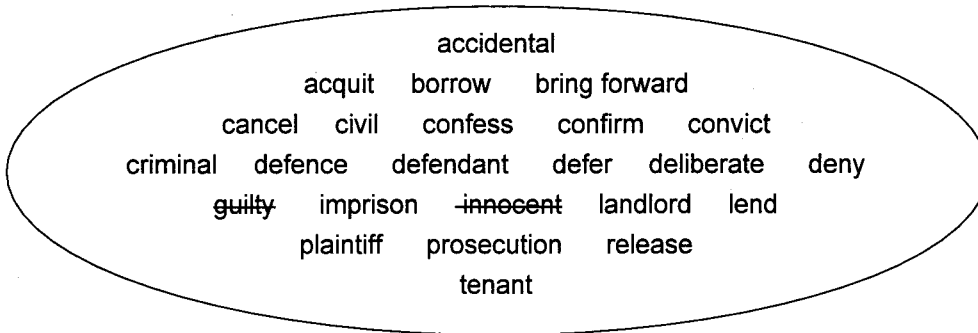
Abbreviations

ALL THESE ABBREVIATIONS are connected to the law. How many of them do you know? Write the full versions on the right. The first one has been done for you as an example. "Also known as" is used to give the different names when a criminal or terrorist uses more than one: "*Richard Williams, a.k.a. the Bayswater Bomber*".

1. a.k.a. also known as
2. AOB _____
3. c.o.d. _____
4. DA _____
5. e. & o.e. _____
6. e.g. _____
7. f.o.b. _____
8. FBI _____
9. FO _____
10. GBH _____
11. GNP _____
12. ID _____
13. Inc _____
14. IOU _____
15. JP _____
16. L/C _____
17. MEP _____
18. p.p. _____
19. PLC _____
20. PR _____
21. QC _____
22. recd _____
23. v. _____
24. VAT _____

Opposites 2

THE WORDS BELOW are all from the world of law. Match them into twelve pairs with opposite meanings and write them in the table. The first one has been done for you as an example: *guilty* and *innocent* are opposites.



<i>guilty - innocent</i>		

Exercise 2. Complete these twelve sentences. Use one word from each pair of opposites. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. He was found guilty and sentenced to two years in prison.
2. There was insufficient evidence for the court to _____ her.
3. As the accused was seriously ill, the judge decided to _____ the trial until the 23rd.
4. The _____ says he cannot pay the amount the court has awarded.
5. According to the terms of the contract, if the _____ doesn't pay the rent for two months he can be evicted.
6. The police were accused of using torture to make suspects _____.
7. Before you _____ such a large amount of money, are you sure you can repay it?
8. He brought a _____ action against the company, claiming that the accident had been caused by a manufacturing fault in the automobile.
9. He has served twelve years in prison and the authorities will _____ him tomorrow.
10. The _____ case is that the accused could not have committed this crime as he was in Glasgow on the day in question.
11. I'm afraid I'll have to _____ our meeting on the 16th - I have to go to Berlin on that day to see a client.
12. The question is this: when he left the gun in the room was it a _____ plan or a moment of carelessness?

Extension. Work with a partner and test each other. One person closes the book, the other asks questions. For example: "What's the opposite of 'guilty'?"

Name the crime 1

THE BOX BELOW gives the names of twenty-two crimes. The list gives the definitions of the same crimes. Match the crimes to their definitions. The first one has been done for you: the crime of *assault* is "acting in such a way as to make someone believe he or she will be hurt"

arson assassination ~~assault~~ bigamy blackmail bribery burglary
embezzlement espionage extortion forgery fraud libel manslaughter murder
perjury piracy robbery slander smuggling theft treason

1. assault acting in such a way as to make someone believe he or she will be hurt
2. betraying your country to a foreign power
3. copying patented inventions or copyrighted works
4. entering a building illegally and stealing things
5. getting money from people by threatening to publicise facts they do not want revealed
6. getting money from people by using threats
7. getting property or money from people by making them believe untrue things
8. going through a ceremony of marriage when you are still married to someone else
9. killing a public figure illegally and intentionally
10. killing someone illegally and intentionally
11. killing someone unintentionally or in mitigating circumstances
12. making an illegal copy of a banknote or document
13. offering money corruptly to get someone to do something to help you
14. saying something which damages someone's character
15. setting fire to a building
16. stealing something by using force or threatening to use force
17. stealing, taking property which belongs to someone else
18. taking goods illegally into or out of a country
19. telling lies when you have sworn an oath to say what is true in court
20. trying to find out secrets by illegal means
21. using illegally or stealing money which you are looking after for someone else
22. writing, publishing or broadcasting a statement which damages someone's character

Extensions. Work with a partner and test each other. One person turns the page over, the other asks questions. "What do you call the crime of acting in such a way as to make someone believe he or she will be hurt" "Define 'treason'."

Who's speaking?

THE STATEMENTS BELOW are all taken from the same case. They were made orally in open court during the trial. Read them and decide who made each statement. For example, the first statement, number 1, was made by the counsel for the prosecution.

- 1 "I would like to remind you of the testimony of Mrs Ellen Barry. She told us that her husband phoned her to say that he had had a successful day. Now, Mr Barry was a drugs dealer, yet when the police arrived on the scene of the crime he had a total of £12.50 in his pockets. We also know that he had borrowed money from Mr Swan on a previous occasion and failed to repay it."
- 2 "He was getting angrier by the minute. He said he wasn't going to let me make a fool of him and then he took out a gun. I was astonished. He started waving it around and shouting. I turned to run away and he shot me in the leg."
- 3 "I apprehended Mr Swan on Standish Lane, a few minutes from the scene of the shooting . At the time of his arrest he had £1,000 and a handgun on his person. He was very distressed, but made no attempt to resist arrest."
- 4 "I was on my way home from the pub when I saw two men arguing. They seemed to be talking about money. They were very angry and both of them were shouting. I wasn't really listening to be honest. Suddenly I heard a shot. When I looked round one of them was lying on the floor and the other had disappeared."
- 5 "I went out to the bank at the end of the afternoon to deposit the money in my business account, but I arrived too late and the bank was closed. I kept the money with me when I went out that night. I didn't want to leave it in the office overnight: we've had a couple of burglaries recently. I was carrying the gun for my own protection. It's licensed. When he attacked me I panicked. It was self-defence."
- 6 "Mark rang me from the pub at about seven o'clock. He said it had gone very well. I supposed he meant that the deal had gone through. He couldn't tell me on the phone. He said he was going to celebrate and he'd be home late."
- 7 "Mr Swan let me go home early. He said he was going to close up the office and go round to the bank."
- 8 "This is a very serious crime, and all the more shocking as it is committed by a man with a comfortable position in society. I find myself with no choice but to sentence you to eight years in prison. Had your victim not survived, which may be due as much to poor marksmanship as compassion, you would have found yourself facing a far longer sentence."
- 9 "We find the defendant guilty as charged."
- 10 "You have heard that Mr Barry was a habitual criminal, whereas my client was a respected local businessman. Does it seem to you probable that a respectable person, someone like yourselves, would go out with a gun to collect debts as my learned friend suggests?"

Extension. Can you reconstruct the story of the case from the statements?

Useful verbs 2

Past tense ~ regular verbs

ALL THE VERBS in the box relate to legal matters. Use the past tense forms to complete the sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.

accuse	acquit	arrest	award	confess	charge	drop	engage	fine
	grant	imprison	plead	release	seize	serve		

1. After six hours of questioning the accused man confessed.
2. The government _____ an amnesty to all political prisoners.
3. Her boss _____ her of stealing £250
4. The secret police _____ him for six months in a high security jail.
5. We _____ the best commercial lawyer we could find to represent us but we still lost the case.
6. The prisoner _____ guilty to all charges.
7. On 12 August they _____ him with murder.
8. The policeman stopped the car and _____ the driver.
9. The president _____ the opposition leader from prison.
10. The court _____ him £2,500 for obtaining money by false pretences.
11. After consideration, the plaintiff _____ the case against his neighbour.
12. The customs _____ the shipment of books.
13. He _____ six months in a local prison.
14. The Crown Court _____ the plaintiff £75,000 in damages plus costs.
15. Two of the men were sent to prison, but the judge _____ the third.

Extension. Choose five sentences and dictate them to a partner.

Pronunciation 2

Present simple: 3rd person "s"

IN THE THIRD person of the present simple, the verb adds an "s" at the end: *I walk, he walks*. There are three different pronunciations of the "s". Look at the examples and practise saying them.

1. /s/	like the sound in <u>sue</u>	For example:	<i>convicts; keeps; checks</i>
2. /z/	like the sound in <u>zero</u>	For example:	<i>tries; opens; sells</i>
3. /ɪz/	like the sound in <u>prison</u>	For example:	<i>accuses; witnesses; publishes</i>

Find the third person present simple verbs in these sentences and underline them. Decide which of the three pronunciations is correct in each case. The first one has been done for you as an example.

	①	②	③
	/s/	/z/	/ɪz/
1. Sometimes the accused <u>pleads</u> guilty in the hope of reducing the sentence.		x	
2. This information certainly helps the case for the defendant.			
3. If the judge dismisses the evidence we'll object.			
4. Often a higher court commutes the death sentence to one of life imprisonment.			
5. She's the director of an agency which collects debts for other companies.			
6. According to this document, Mrs Winter claims £10,000 for damages to her home.			
7. The contractor discharges the contract only when all works are completed.			
8. He leases office space from a large property company.			
9. On these grounds my client repudiates this contract.			
10. This document summarises the events leading to the raid on the house.			
11. Being a judge disqualifies you from being a Member of Parliament.			
12. Sometimes a court acquits someone who is guilty.			
13. This letter corroborates the accused's alibi.			
14. We need to know if the company intends to sue for damages.			
15. Our legal advisor recommends that we do not apply for an injunction.			
16. My client owns a publishing company in Brazil.			
17. The committee discriminates between proposals on grounds of community benefit.			
18. This company employs more than 5,000 people in 16 countries.			
19. We have a department which assesses property for the purposes of insurance.			
20. The government taxes this type of transaction at 8%.			
21. After he signs he won't be able to change his mind again.			
22. The next national holiday falls on a Monday.			
23. Some people feel that the arrival of multinationals corrupts local bureaucrats.			
24. The family still controls the business.			
25. Our lawyer advises us that we can sue if we wish to.			

Extension. The same rule applies to plurals: /s/ clerks; /z/ lawyers; /ɪz/ judges. Work with a partner and think of five nouns in each pronunciation category.

Prepositions

Find the mistakes

THE TWENTY SENTENCES in this exercise contain **mistakes**. The mistakes are all in the prepositions and there are three types.

1. MISSING PREPOSITION	I spoke [^] him about this last week.	<i>to</i>
2. WRONG PREPOSITION	We're meeting again in [^] Tuesday.	<i>on</i>
3. UNNECESSARY PREPOSITION	I'll telephone to you tomorrow.	

Find the mistakes and correct them.

1. It says in the newspaper that he's been evading of income tax.
2. The prosecution tried to discredit at the defence witness.
3. I am writing in behalf of Mr and Mrs Smith...
4. I would like to report of a theft.
5. He was awarded £100,000 to compensate of the damages caused by the manufacturer.
6. The directors of the firm were accused insider trading.
7. If you don't tell me you'll be charged to withholding evidence.
8. In view of your failure to pay, I have instructed to my solicitors to start proceedings immediately.
9. We have referred your question at the tribunal and hope to have an answer for you in the next few days.
10. After six months in prison she will be eligible to parole.
11. The next national holiday falls in a Monday.
12. They decided to sue at the landlord for failure to maintain the property..
13. During the appeal he claimed that the original judge had been biased in favour to the plaintiff.
14. The defendant was negligent to carrying out his duties as a trustee.
15. The company was declared to be of a state of insolvency.
16. My client disagrees with clause 6 of the contract which expressly forbids to sales in the USA.
17. The judge ruled that her evidence was inadmissible and it was expunged the report.
18. Does the bill include of VAT or is that extra?
19. The judge acquitted to the husband but imposed a £250 fine on the wife.
20. He was found guilty of all charges and sentenced five years in prison.

Extension. Write three sentences with deliberate mistakes in the prepositions. Check them with the teacher, then show them to a partner to see if he or she can find the mistakes.

Name the crime 2

Defence

BELOW ARE 10 statements by defendants. Read the statements and say what crime has each one been accused of.

- 1 "I arrived home late and found that I'd forgotten my keys. I didn't want to wake my wife up, and I saw there was a ladder in the garden of the house next door. I got the ladder and climbed in. We've just moved house and I didn't realise I was in the wrong street..."
- 2 "I was walking my dog when I saw the gun lying on the ground. I picked it up - it was still warm - and at that moment I saw the body lying in the long grass. I went across to look and it was my business partner. That's when the police arrived..."
- 3 "I opened the bank account in a false name as a way to help my employer pay less tax- It's perfectly legal. I kept meaning to tell him, but somehow I just forgot. I bought the villa in France with my own money. It was an inheritance..."
- 4 "OK, so there are a hundred and twenty-three copies of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. That's perfectly true, but I had no intention of selling them. I'm a collector."
- 5 "Well this obviously isn't my suitcase. I've never seen these things before in my life. The monogram? Well, they are my initials, but that must be a coincidence. That's probably how the two cases got mixed up. After all, JA aren't very unusual initials. A photograph with me in it? My word, that's incredible! It must be someone who knows me..."
- 6 "I didn't know she was still alive, I thought she'd died in a car accident. I couldn't believe it when I saw her walk into the room. Surely you don't think I did this just to get your money...?"
- 7 "You misunderstand me. When I offered him the money I meant it as a gift. I know that life can be difficult for a young man on a police salary, especially if he has a family, young children etcetera. It isn't easy and I know that. I just wanted to help. I didn't expect him to do anything in return..."
- 8 "After leaving the office I realised I'd forgotten my umbrella. I went back in to get it. When I went in I noticed that the photocopier was still turned on. It had been working very badly all day, and I decided to quickly see what was wrong with it before going home. I made a few test copies of documents that were in the office; I didn't even look at what I was copying. The machine seemed to be working much better. I put the copies in my briefcase - intending to use the other side as notepaper. I don't believe in wasting paper. At that moment Mr Sanders came out of his office..."
- 9 "I painted them for pleasure. I had no intention of deceiving people. I never said they were by other people. Yes, I did include the signatures of other artists but that's because I wanted them to be perfect copies..."
- 10 "Mr Wills sent me the money to help me in my business venture - I'm trying to start a design agency. He sent me cheques every month for \$1200. A couple of times he sent extra when I had special expenses. It was always understood that he would participate in the profits of the business when it was running. We didn't write anything down, it was an oral agreement, The photographs I have of him with his secretary have no connection with these payments."

Extension. Write a defence for another crime and show it to other people in your class. See if they can guess what crime you are thinking of.

Useful verbs 3

Mixed tenses

ALL THE VERBS in the box relate to legal matters. Use them to complete the sentences. You may have to change the forms of the verbs to fit the grammar of the sentences*. The first one has been done for you as an example.

advise appeal commit ~~disclaim~~ disclose embezzle establish follow
impose legislate manipulate offer preclude prevent value

1. He disclaimed all knowledge of the robbery until £250,000 in cash was found in his house.
2. He is _____ us £100,000 for the house, which is £10,000 less than we wanted.
3. He says he's innocent and he's going to _____ to the supreme court against the decision.
4. He was sent to prison for six months for _____ his clients' money.
5. I believe that they are _____ the accounts to make the company look more profitable.
6. In my opinion they'll _____ the business at about £2m.
7. Our solicitor has _____ us to take the documents to the police.
8. Parliament has _____ against the sale of drugs.
9. The bank has no right to _____ details of my account to the tax office.
10. The business was _____ in 1881.
11. The court has _____ the precedent set in the 1972 case.
12. The magistrate _____ a fine of £150.
13. The gang had _____ six robberies before they were caught.
14. They have changed the locks on the building to _____ the former managing director from going in.
15. This agreement does not _____ further agreements between these parties in the future.

* Remember the five forms of English verbs, for example: *take, takes, took, taken, taking*.

Extension. Choose five sentences and dictate them to a partner.

Phrasal verbs

PHRASAL VERBS ARE common in conversational English. Read the definitions on the right and use the phrasal verbs to complete the sentences. You will have to use some verbs more than once, and you may have to change the form of the verb to fit the grammar of the sentence. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. The company ACT has been broken
up into seven autonomous divisions.
2. He had a factory which manufactured cheap sports clothes which he _____ as high-quality designer goods.
3. He _____ all of us _____ with his promise of quick profits and low risks.
4. He was caught _____ to a clothes shop at night.
5. He _____ the meeting with a vote of thanks to the chairman
6. I'm very busy on Wednesday: can I _____ our meeting _____ to Tuesday?
7. John is leaving in June and there will be a gap of one month before the new manager _____.
8. Management and unions could not agree and negotiations _____ at midnight yesterday.
9. Payment will be _____ until the contract is signed.
10. Shares in ACT have increased in price by 35 pence with the news that they are to be _____ by Giant PLC
11. The car was still under guarantee when it _____.
12. The company was insolvent and the court ordered it to be _____.
13. The share price _____ well through the summer and then fell in September.
14. They are accused of _____ a security van and stealing £45,000.
15. This watch was _____ to me from my great-grandfather.
16. When he lost his job he _____ his savings _____ into opening a design studio.
17. You have to _____ £200 _____ now and then pay £100 a month for eighteen months.

Verbs & definitions

1. **break down:** to stop because of failure
2. **break in:** to go into a building by force in order to steal
3. **break off:** to stop a discussion or negotiation
4. **break-up:** to divide (a company) into separate units
5. **bring forward:** to change to an earlier date
6. **hand down:** to give to the next generation through inheritance
7. **hold up:** (1) to rob from a bank or vehicle using weapons, (2) to stay at a high level, (3) to delay
8. **pass off:** to pretend something is not what it is to cheat a customer
9. **put down:** to pay as a deposit
10. **put into:** invest
11. **take in:** to trick, to deceive
12. **take over:** (1) to start to do something in place of someone else, (2) to buy a company
13. **wind up:** (1) to end a meeting, (2) to put a company into liquidation

Extension. Work with a partner. Test each other: One person closes the book, the other asks questions. For example: "Tell me a verb which means 'to divide a company into separate units'"

Pronunciation 3

Past tense & past participle

REGULAR PAST TENSES and past participles are formed with the suffix “ed”: *walk, walked, walked*. There are three different pronunciations of the “ed” at the end of the verb. Look at these examples and practise saying them.

1. /t/	like the sound in <i>trial</i>	For example:	<i>expressed; tricked; helped</i>
2. /d/	like the sound in <i>dock</i>	For example:	<i>accused; opened; claimed</i>
3. /ɪd/	like the sound in <i>bid</i>	For example:	<i>convicted; pleaded; acquitted</i>

Find the regular past tense verbs in these sentences and underline them. Decide which of the three pronunciations is correct in each case. The first one has been done for you as an example.

	①	②	③
	/t/	/d/	/ɪd/
1. The clerk was <u>disciplined</u> for leaking the report to a newspaper.		×	
2. He claims he was discriminated against because of his colour.			
3. The company is presumed to be still solvent.			
4. The market has not recovered from the rise in oil prices.			
5. The legislation was reformed to make court room procedure more straightforward.			
6. The letters were despatched to day.			
7. The contract becomes null and void when these documents are surrendered.			
8. He was blackmailed by his former secretary.			
9. His firm was blacklisted by the government.			
10. He promised to pay the money before the end of the month.			
11. The gang swindled the bank out of £1.5m.			
12. He practised as a solicitor for twenty-five years			
13. The defendant is represented by his solicitor.			
14. The company has recorded another year of increased sales.			
15. The court adjourned to allow the prosecution time to find the missing witnesses.			
16. The recession caused hundreds of bankruptcies.			
17. The judge sentenced him to two years in prison.			
18. The political prisoners were pardoned by the president.			
19. He traded under the name “Eeziphitt”.			
20. He was summoned to appear before the committee.			
21. The new building must be financed by the local authority.			
22. We based our calculations on last year’s turnover			
23. The government has not published the figures.			
24. The agent is empowered to sell the property.			
25. The judge decided in favour of the plaintiff.			

Extension. Work with a partner. Each person chooses five sentences and dictate them to the other. Take turns.

Odd one out

IN EACH OF the following sets of four, one word or expression is the *odd one out* -it does not fit with the others. For example:

lawyer.....judge.....criminal.....policeman

Criminal is the odd one out: the other three all defend the law. Find the odd one out in each of the sentences and circle it, as in the example.

1. divorcedmarried separated..... alone
2. judgecounsel barrister solicitor
3. robberyarson..... shoplifting burglary
4. indictaccuse..... charge convict
5. responsibility.....duty right obligation
6. murder.....blackmail..... manslaughter homicide
7. hereafterhereinafter hereunder..... herewith
8. collateral.....plea surety guarantor
9. condemnation.....clemency pardon..... mercy
10. guillotineelectric chair..... gas chamber..... execution
11. dispense.....distribute disburse discredit
12. ransom.....abduct..... take hostage kidnap
13. accidentallydeliberately..... knowingly wilfully
14. verdictruling..... appeal decision
15. intellectual propertyroyalty patent copyright
16. joint venturepartnership contract..... merger
17. accused.....witness defendant prisoner
18. admitpermit..... allow deny

Pronunciation 4

Verbs & nouns

SOMETIMES TWO WORDS can be spelled the same but pronounced differently. This is often because one word is a noun and the other is a verb. One example is the word "import":

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Oil is a major im-port for France.</i> | NOUN | ①② stress on the first syllable. |
| 2. <i>Does Britain im-port a lot of wine?</i> | VERB | ①② stress on the second syllable. |

Read the following sentences. Decide in each case if the word in *italics* is a verb or a noun. Then decide which stress pattern it has and complete the table. The first one has been done for you as an example.

	noun verb	①②	①②
1. France, Spain, Greece and Italy <i>export</i> olive oil.	<i>verb</i>		X
2. Manufactured goods are Japan's principal <i>export</i> .			
3. The main <i>suspect</i> in murder the investigation is the husband.			
4. We <i>suspect</i> that the robbery was carried out by someone inside the company.			
5. Great news: they've offered us the <i>contract</i> .			
6. We're going to <i>contract</i> a company called All Clear to deal with security.			
7. Given the evidence, I'm sure they'll <i>convict</i> him.			
8. He wrote to you from prison - you must have known he was a <i>convict</i> .			
9. I'm sorry, you can't park here without a <i>permit</i> .			
10. This document will <i>permit</i> you to sell computer systems abroad.			
11. It's important to <i>record</i> everything the prisoner says during interrogation.			
12. We keep a <i>record</i> of sales from day to day on the computer.			
13. The <i>object</i> of our meeting today is to discuss the damages claim by Mr Larsen.			
14. I'm told that you <i>object</i> to one of the clauses in the agreement.			
15. With your permission, I would like to read you an <i>extract</i> from the statement.			
16. Can you go through the accounts and <i>extract</i> the information he's asking for?			
17. The two companies will <i>conduct</i> negotiations which may lead to a merger.			
18. She divorced him because of his unreasonable <i>conduct</i> .			
19. I don't <i>dispute</i> your claim to the estate.			
20. I believe there is a <i>dispute</i> between my client and yours.			

Latin pair-up

MANY LATIN EXPRESSIONS are used in British law, for example *corpus delicti* is the proof that a crime has been committed. Match words from the two boxes, A and B, to make 15 legal expressions which fit the definitions in the list. Each expression should consist of a word from box A followed by a word from Box B. The first one has been done for you as an example.

BOX A

BONA CAVEAT COMPOS DOLI
HABEAS INTER INTER IPSO
OBITER PER PRIMA SUI TOTIES
VICE VIVA

BOX B

ALIA CAPAX CAPITA CORPUS
DICTA EMPTOR FACIE FACTO
FIDE GENERIS MENTIS QUOTIES
VERSA VIVOS VOCE

Definitions

1. In good faith

bona fide

2. Among other things

3. The buyer is responsible for checking a purchase

4. Things which are said in passing

5. In the opposite way

6. By speaking

7. Sane

8. In a class of its own

9. As often as necessary

10. Between living people

11. A legal remedy against wrongful imprisonment

12. By this fact, in itself

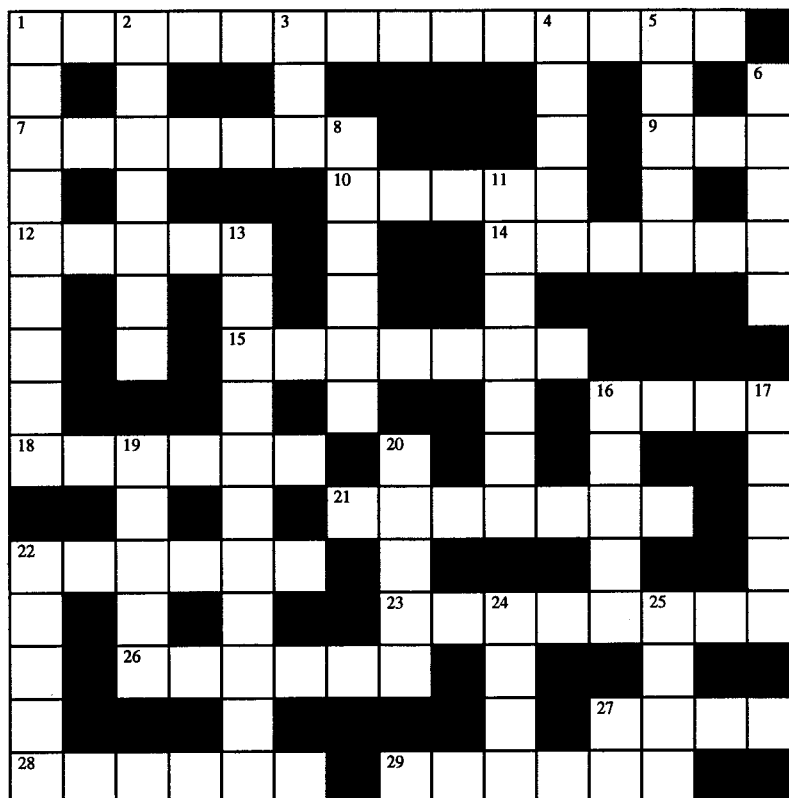
13. Capable of crime

14. For each person

15. As things seem at first

Extension. Find three more Latin expressions in the dictionary and teach them to other students in the class.

Legal crossword 2



Across

1. Secret (bad?) reason for doing something (8,6)
7. Smallest possible quantity (7)
9. The rules by which a country is governed (3)
10. To try not to do something, eg pay taxes (5)
12. To grant that a contract, for example, continues for a further period of time (5)
14. Somebody you borrow from (6)
15. To follow, to inherit, (7)
16. Piece, section (4)
18. To slander, to libel (6)
21. Buying and selling shares (7)
22. Not coastal - the interior of a country (6)
23. Not a soldier
26. A thing which has a legal existence (5)
27. Legal document which has been signed, sealed and delivered by the person making it (4)
28. Change which make something better, eg: "The group demanded the _____ of the prison system." (6)
29. To pay back all the principal and interest on a loan, to sell a bond for cash(6)

Down

1. Single
2. Agreement by which a person can occupy a property (7)
3. Paper which says you must pay money to someone - informal (3)
4. The business of buying and selling (5)
5. Acceptable, can be used lawfully (5)
6. Decision which settles a dispute, to decide the amount of money to be given to someone (5)
8. Intention and wrong motives (6)
11. Unlawful(7)
13. Where the British parliament meets (11)
16. Relating to punishment (5)
17. To teach someone how to do something (5)
19. Not true, not genuine (5)
20. Forgiveness (5)
22. To make yourself liable to something, eg: "You will _____ heavy legal costs if you go to court:" (5)
24. Opposite of 5 down, not having legal effect (4)
25. Thing for sale (4)
27. ___ facto or ___ jure (2)

Anagrams 2

READ THE DEFINITIONS and put the letters in order to make fifteen words connected with the law. Write the words in the grid to find the mystery phrase. The first one has been done for you: *innocent* is the opposite of guilty

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Opposite of guilty | CCEINNOT |
| 2. Maker of illegal fires..... | AINORSST |
| 3. A company - the commercial spirit..... | EEEINPRRST |
| 4. Save from danger..... | CEERSU |
| 5. A country and the people living in it | AINONT |
| 6. Suggest that something should be done..... | CDEEMNOR |
| 7. A person who is supported financially by someone else | ADDEENNPT |
| 8. Having a legal duty to do something | ABDEGILOT |
| 9. Not able to pay debts | EILNNOSTV |
| 10. An official occasion | CEEMNORY |
| 11. Kept out, not included..... | CDDEELUX |
| 12. Income, money earned, especially from taxation | EEENRUV |
| 13. To go to law | AEGIILTT |
| 14. Concerning money..... | AACFIILNN |
| 15. A type of lawyer | CIILLOORST |

1.	i	n	n	o	c	e	n	t										
2.																		
3.																		
4.																		
5.																		
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12.																		
13.																		
14.																		
15.																		

Mystery Phrase: crazy - but in Latin

Useful verbs 4

Mixed tenses

ALL THE VERBS in the box relate to legal matters. Use them to complete the sentences. You may have to change the forms of the verbs to fit the grammar of the sentences. The first one has been done for you as an example.

arrange blackmail convict corroborate exonerate find forfeit infringe
overturn prohibit promise recover ~~refrain~~ sentence sue

1. He was asked to give an undertaking to refrain from political activity.
2. My client intends to appeal and I am sure that a higher court will _____ this sentence.
3. I can _____ Mr Waterman's alibi. At the time of the theft I saw him in Brighton.
4. The judge _____ him to three years imprisonment.
5. After the accident he _____ the company for £50,000 in damages.
6. She was _____ of manslaughter and sent to prison for eight years.
7. If you decide not to buy you will _____ your 25% deposit.
8. The court has _____ him guilty on all charges.
9. We believe that this production _____ our copyright as detailed below.
10. The company went out of business and the original investment was never _____.
11. We discovered that his secretary was _____ him with certain details about his private life.
12. You _____ to pay by August and it's now September. What's your explanation?
13. The law _____ the sale of alcohol to minors.
14. All the files are _____ in alphabetical order, so it's very easy to find.
15. The judge _____ the driver from all responsibility for the accident.

Extension. Choose five sentences and dictate them to a partner.

Adjectives 2

ALL THE ADJECTIVES in the box are connected with legal matters. Use them to complete the sentences. The first one has been done for you.

biased competent conditional domestic dual equal final **guilty**
heavy legal official ostensible reciprocal unlimited wilful

1. They had the motive, the means and the opportunity - they're obviously guilty.
2. She has _____ nationality: her parents are Irish but she was born in Italy.
3. It was a serious case and the looters received a _____ sentence.
4. On investigation we discovered that his _____ partner had no official connection with the business.
5. I am afraid that this court is not _____ to deal with this matter. You will have to go to a higher court.
6. Perhaps you do not agree with the company's actions, but they were perfectly _____.
7. Of course, you must understand that all this is _____ on your accepting our price.
8. Money is no problem: the bank has given us _____ credit.
9. There is no excuse for this; you knew what you were doing: it is a case of _____ misconduct.
10. The company has not previously exported anything: we have only served the _____ market.
11. You'll never win the case with this judge - he's completely _____ against you.
12. The agreement would be _____: if you sold in our market we would expect the same rights in your market.
13. It must be an _____ statement; it's signed by the Prime Minister.
14. This month, after twenty-five years, I will make the _____ payment and the house will be mine.
15. The law now states that male and female workers must have _____ pay.

Extension. Choose five of the sentences and dictate them to a partner.

Politics

THERE ARE FIFTEEN words connected with politics in the box. Use them to complete the sentences - in some cases you will need to make them plural. The first one has been done for you as an example.

abstention budget consensus ~~constitution~~ devolution house leader leak
 legislation membership policy poll recess spokesman veto

1. Germany has a federal constitution .
2. A government _____ revealed that discussions had been concluded on the treaty.
3. According to the latest opinion _____ the Prime Minister is more unpopular than ever.
4. Austria's application for _____ of the EU was successful.
5. Many Scots would like to see more _____ of power from Westminster.
6. Parliament has introduced _____ to control the sale of drugs.
7. The bill was passed by both _____ and sent to the President for signature.
8. The crisis happened during the summer _____ and Parliament had to be recalled.
9. The government is investigating the latest _____ of documents relating to the spy trial.
10. The government is running a tight monetary _____ to try to control inflation.
11. The _____ of the opposition criticised the Prime Minister for his failure to act.
12. The motion was carried by 200 votes to 150; there were 60 _____ .
13. The President has the power of _____ over bills passed by Congress.
14. There is a _____ between all the major parties about what we should do now.
15. The minister has put forward a _____ aimed at slowing down the economy.

Extension 1. All the words in the box are nouns. Some of them have verb forms. What are they? The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. an abstention <i>to abstain</i>	5. a leak
2. a budget	6. legislation
3. a devolution	7. a poll
4. a leader	8. a veto

Extension 2. Write three sentences for the verbs. Don't write the verbs: leave gaps as in the first exercise on the worksheet. Give the sentences to another student as a test .

Multiple meanings

SOME WORDS HAVE more than one meaning. For example a *party* is a person involved in a legal dispute (“*One of the parties to the dispute has died*”) but it is also a political organisation (“*Lincoln was a member of the Republican party*”). Can you identify the following eight words? Two or three meanings are given for each word.

1 This word means:

- a meeting or a series of meetings: “*There is a Democratic _____ in August.*”
- an international treaty: “*All the countries agreed to a new arms _____.*”
- the way something is usually done: “*We have a _____ that the President enters first.*”

2 This word means:

- money invested or borrowed: “*You don't pay off the _____ until the end of the loan period.*”
- A person or company represented by agents: “*The agent has come to London to see his _____.*”
- person responsible for something: “*Whose name appears on the contract as _____?*”

3 This word means:

- something which is for sale: “*This _____ is very attractively priced.*”
- a section of a legal agreement: “*If you look at _____ 7 of the contract you'll see why.*”

4 This word means:

- an area of land: “*The _____ is 100 square kilometres.*”
- property left by a dead person: “*His _____ was worth \$1.5m.*”

5 This word means:

- proper, correct: “*We will not release the documents without _____ procedure being followed.*”
- owed: “*The next payment is _____ on the 5th of October.*”
- expected to arrive: “*He isn't _____ until seven o'clock.*”

6 This word means:

- to say something clearly: “*I _____ now that my client is completely innocent.*”
- independent country: “*All citizens have obligations to the _____.*”

7 This word means:

- special attention: “*I took a particular _____ in this case.*”
- money paid for the use of money: “*What is the current rate of _____?*”
- ownership of shares in a company: “*He has a majority _____ in a newspaper.*”

8 This word means:

- to put into words or diagrams: “*You must _____ the idea more clearly.*”
- very fast: “*I'll send the papers to you _____.*”

Test your criminal slang

HOW GOOD ARE you at detective work? Below there are four conversations. The conversation include 14 slang words. The definitions of the words are in the box on the right. Read the conversations, and use the context to match the words to the definitions.

Conversation 1

- Have you heard about Henry?*
- No. What?
- He's been nicked.*
- You're joking. What happened?
- He was blagging a bank with his brother and somebody grassed on them.*
- Who's the nark?
- Who knows? Henry's got a lot of enemies.*

Conversation 2

- What did he get?*
- Eight years.
- Eight years inside! I thought you said he had a good brief.*
- Well, he thought he did.
- Where's he going to do it?*
- Isle of Wight.
- Oh no. The screws in there are the worst in the world.*

Conversation 3

- So, what have you got for me?*
- Rolex watches. Two hundred of them.
- Are they hot?*
- What do you think? Would I come to a fence like you with them if they weren't?
- Leave them with me tonight and I'll give you a price for them in the morning.*
- Leave it out. Do I look like a mug?
- Sorry?*
- I'm surprised at you, trying a scam like that. I wasn't born yesterday. I want a price now.

Conversation 4

- At one time I had 50 people selling heroin in clubs around the city.*
- Really? Didn't you have any problem with the law?
- No, they were all bent in those days. A bit of cash every month and they were happy.*
- So why did you open the supermarkets?
- Originally it was a way to launder the drugs money. In the end it became more interesting to be legitimate.*

Definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 _____ = | a buyer of stolen property |
| 2 _____ = | a lawyer |
| 3 _____ = | a person who is easily deceived |
| 4 _____ = | a prison guard |
| 5 _____ = | a trick |
| 6 _____ = | an informer |
| 7 _____ = | corrupt |
| 8 _____ = | in prison |
| 9 _____ = | stolen |
| 10 _____ = | the police |
| 11 <u>to nick</u> = | to arrest |
| 12 _____ = | to hold up, to rob using weapons |
| 13 _____ = | to inform the police |
| 14 _____ = | to transfer illegally gained money to a normal bank account |

Quiz

HOW MANY OF these questions can you answer?

1. Which of the following can serve on a British jury:
 - barristers
 - judges
 - solicitors
 - priests
 - doctors
 - Members of Parliament
 - people who are insane?
2. You ask Mr Smith's job and he tells you he is an *attorney*. Is he American or British?
3. What colour is the card which permits you to live in the US as a citizen?
4. What is a "white collar criminal"?
5. Who lives at number ten?
6. What does "limited" mean in the name of a company?
7. How many times can a British MP make a maiden speech?
8. What right does the Fifth Amendment guarantee?
9. What shape is the office of the President of the USA?
10. What colour is the market where you can buy illicit goods?
11. How many states are there in the USA?
12. If the US Congress is equivalent to the British Commons, what is the British equivalent to the Senate?
13. What is the name of the document which tells people how to dispose of your estate after your death?
14. What is the difference between soft and hard currencies?
15. The United Kingdom is composed of three nations and a province. What are they?

Extension. Work with a partner and write a quiz. Try it on other students.

Communicative Crossword 1

Sheet A

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet B. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet B to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

"What's one across?"

→ across, ↓ down

¹ S	T	² A	N	³ D	A	⁴ R	D		⁵	⁶		⁷		⁸ R
H		I		E		E		⁹						E
A		¹⁰ D		F		N								P
R				A		T		¹¹						R
E		¹² H		M										I
¹³ S	C	O	P	E		¹⁴					¹⁵ S	A	N	E
		L			¹⁶						U			V
¹⁷ S	H	O	P							¹⁸ A	B	A	T	E
E		G		¹⁹			²⁰		²¹		S			
N		R					²² C	R	I	M	I	N	A	²³ L
²⁴ T		A			²⁵ S						D			
E		P			²⁶ C						I			
N		²⁷ H	²⁸ E	A	R				²⁹		A			
C			Y		I						R			
E		³⁰ K	E	E	P		³¹				³² Y			

Communicative Crossword 1

Sheet B

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet A. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet A to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

“What’s one across?”
→ across, ↓ down

1		2		3		4			5	M	6	U	R	7	D	E	8	R	
									9	R		N			O				
		10	D	E	F	E	N	C	E		D			C					
									11	S	P	E	A	K	E	R			
		12							E		R								
13							14	T		R				15					
						16	L	E	A	V	E								
17								X		E			18						
					19	D	A	T	20	A		21	L						
						U			22	C		I						23	L
24	T	R	A	D	E	25	S			C		B							A
						26	C	H	O	S	E								W
		27	28						U		29	R	E	A	L	T	Y		
									N		T								E
		30							31	T	R	Y		32	Y	E	A	R	

Communicative Crossword 2

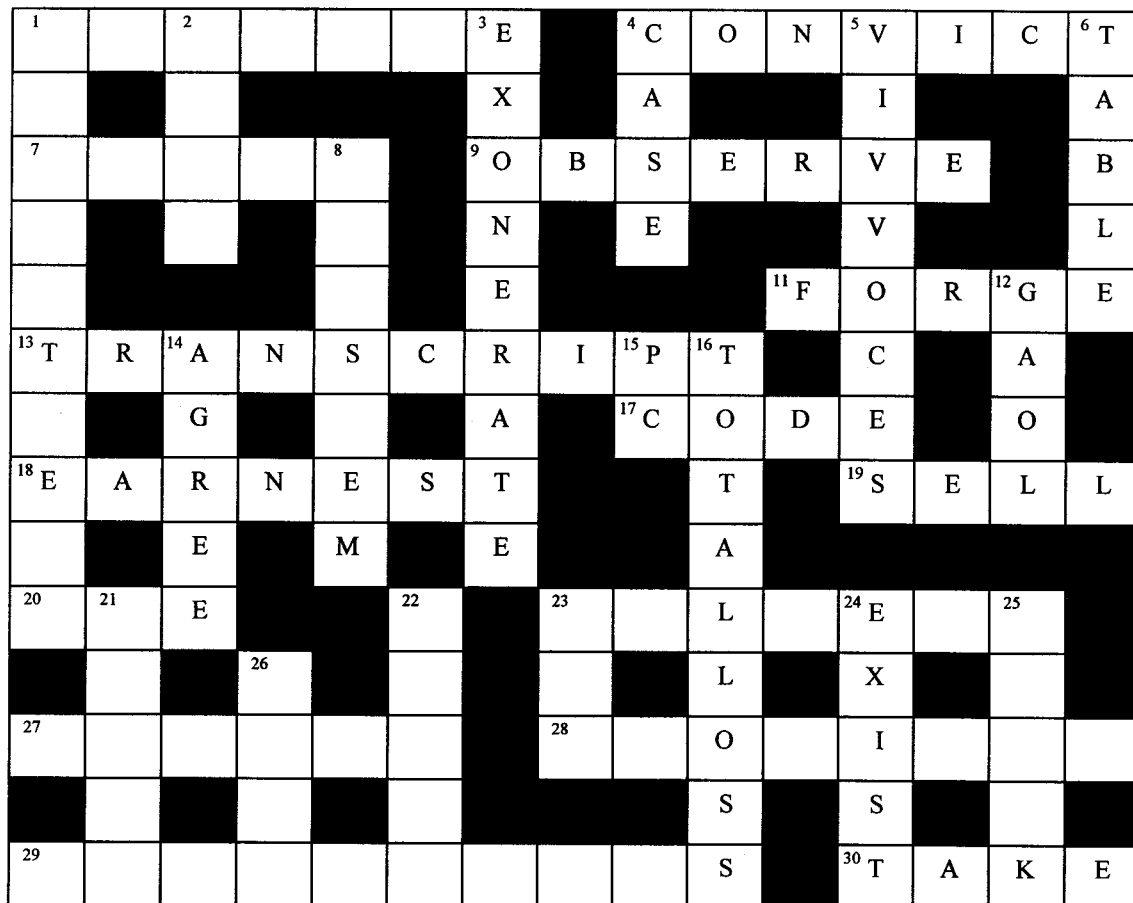
Sheet A

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet B. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet B to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

“What’s one across?”

→ across, ↓ down



Communicative Crossword 2

Sheet B

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet A. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet A to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

“What’s one across?”
→ across, ↓ down

¹ E	X	² P	U	N	G	³ E		⁴			⁵			⁶
Y		L												
⁷ E	V	A	D	⁸ E		⁹								
W		N		J										
I				U						¹¹			¹²	
¹³ T		¹⁴		S				¹⁵	¹⁶					
N				D				¹⁷						
¹⁸ E				E						¹⁹				
S				M		E								
²⁰ S	²¹ U	E			²² V		²³ C	O	L	L	²⁴ E	C	²⁵ T	
	N		²⁶ L		O		O						R	
²⁷ E	F	F	E	C	T		²⁸ P	R	O	H	I	B	I	T
	I		N		E								C	
²⁹ S	T	A	T	I	S	T	I	C	S		³⁰			

Communicative Crossword 3

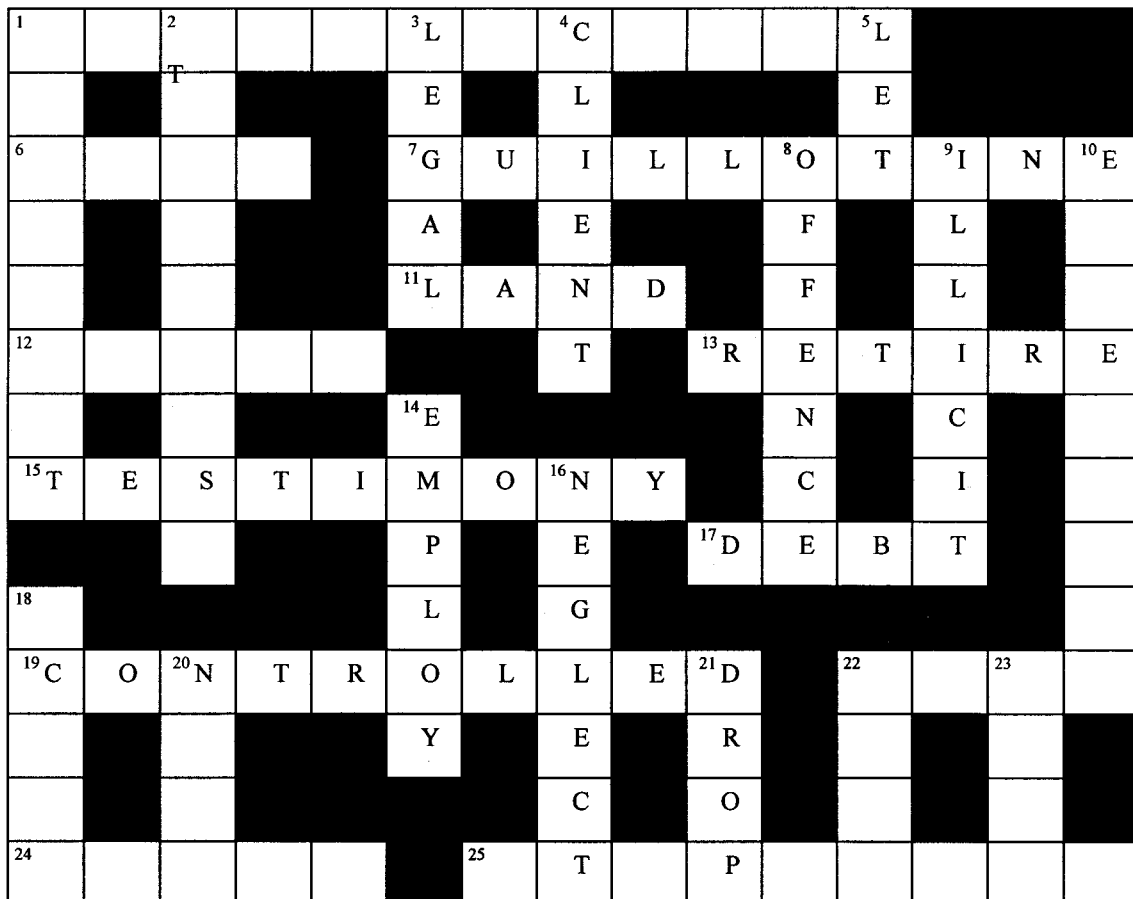
Sheet A

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet B. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet B to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

"What's one across?"

→ across, ↓ down



Communicative Crossword 3

Sheet B

THIS CROSSWORD IS not complete: you have only half the words. The other half are on sheet A. Check that you know the words in your crossword. Then work with a partner who has sheet A to complete the two crosswords. Follow these three rules:

1. Speak only in English
2. Don't say the word in the crossword
3. Don't show your crossword to your partner.

“What’s one across?”

→ across, ↓ down

¹ I	N	² T	E	L	³ L	E	⁴ C	T	U	A	⁵ L			
N		E												
⁶ T	E	R	M		⁷					⁸		⁹	¹⁰ E	
E		R											F	
R		O			¹¹								F	
¹² E	A	R	L	Y					¹³				E	
S		I			¹⁴								C	
¹⁵ T		S					¹⁶						T	
		M							¹⁷				I	
¹⁸ S													V	
¹⁹ C		²⁰ N							²¹		²² C	A	²³ S	E
A		O									A		O	
L		T									L		F	
²⁴ E	L	E	C	T		²⁵ S	T	I	P	U	L	A	T	E

Answer Key

Useful verbs 1 (p.3)

1. reach 2. evict 3. approve 4. withhold 5. earn 6. bribe
7. rescind 8. adjourn 9. employ 10. testify 11. issue
12. obligate 13. dismiss 14. recommend 15. arbitrate

Word association 1 (p.4)

1. law 2. court 3. jury 4. tax 5. sentence

Word association 2 (p.5)

Exercise 1

1. break a law 2. commit a crime 3. cross examine a witness
4. charge a fee 5. declare an interest 6. enter a market
7. evade taxes 8. hear a case 9. negotiate terms
10. return a verdict

Exercise 2

1. breaking the law 2. negotiate terms 3. returned a verdict
4. enter the market 5. evade taxes 6. heard the case
7. cross examining the witness 8. commit the crime
9. declare an interest 10. charge a fee

Word association 3 (p.6)

Exercise 1

1. stolen 2. burglar 3. to pick (someone's) pocket 4. to mug
5. housebreaking 6. shoplifter 7. kleptomania 8. thief
9. to hold up (a place) 10. stolen property

Pronunciation 1 (p.7)

Word stress in three-syllable words

- GROUP 1 ①②③ 1. evidence 2. innocent 3. companies
4. prosecute 5. government 6. minister 7. treasury
8. secretary

- GROUP 2 ①②③ 1. acquittal 2. forensic 3. decision
4. indictment 5. opinion 6. performance 7. example
8. selection 9. consider 10. embezzled 11. director
12. department 13. corruption. 14. insider

GROUP 3 ①②③

1. disapproved 2. incorrect 3. recommend 4. employees

Opposites 1 - prefixes (p.8)

Exercise 1

-il

1. illegal 2. illegitimate

-im

1. immoral 2. immovable 3. imperfect 4. improper

-in

1. inadmissible 2. incapable 3. incompetent 4. incorrect
5. independent 6. insane 7. insolvent 8. invalid

-ir

1. irreconcilable 2. irrecoverable 3. irregular 4. irrelevant

-un

1. unconfirmed 2. uninsured 3. unjust 4. unlawful
5. unprofessional 6. unreliable

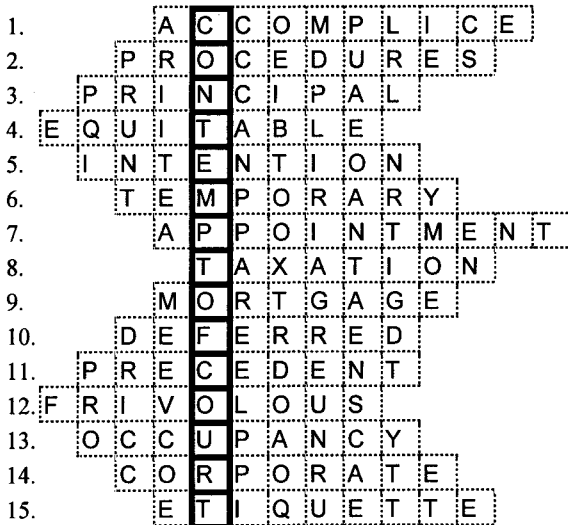
Exercise 2

1. inadmissible 2. incorrect 3. unreliable 4. improper
5. imperfect 6. irrelevant 7. unconfirmed 8. illegal
9. insolvent 10. invalid 11. irrecoverable 12. independent

Legal Crossword 1 (p.9)

¹ R	E	² F	E	³ R		⁴ L		⁵ A	C	⁶ C	E	⁷ P	T	
E		A		O		I		C		U		E		
G		⁸ C	O	U	R	T		Q		⁹ T	O	R	T	
I	S		G		I		U					S		
S		I		H		G		¹⁰ D	I	V	I	D	¹¹ D	
¹² T	I	M	E			¹³ A	B	E	T				A	
R		I		¹⁴ A		N		F		¹⁵ J	U	R	Y	
A		¹⁶ L	¹⁷ E	G	A	T	E	E	S		U			
¹⁸ T	H	E	R	E				N		¹⁹ A	D	U	²⁰ L	T
I			R					D		G		O		
²¹ O	²² P	P	O	S	E			²³ A	S	S	E	²⁴ S	S	
²⁵ N	O		R					N		²⁶ S	T	E	²⁷ P	
	I			²⁸ F	I	²⁹ R	S	T			E		R	
	N			E		U					A		A	
³⁰ S	T	A	T	E		³¹ N	O	T	G	U	I	L	T	Y

Anagrams 1 (p.10)



Navigating documents (p.11)

Legal adverbs

Here

1. hereafter in the future - from the production of this document on
2. hereby resulting from this document
3. herein appearing somewhere in this document
4. hereinafter listed later in this document
5. hereof relating to this document or part of it
6. hereto following this document
7. heretofore previous to the production of this document
8. herunder mentioned in this same section of this document
9. herewith accompanying this document

There

1. thereafter from the production of that document until now
2. thereby resulting from that document or decision
3. therefore for that reason or purpose
4. therein appearing somewhere in that document
5. thereafter listed later in that document
6. thereinbefore mentioned previously in that document
7. thereinunder mentioned in that section of that document
8. thereof relating to that document
9. thereto following that document
10. theretofore in the time before that document was produced
11. therewith accompanying that document

Adjectives 1 (p.12)

1. preliminary 2. exemplary 3. liable 4. joint
5. out-of-court 6. concurrent 7. flagrant 8. bankrupt
9. overdue 10. civil 11. exempt 12. hostile 13. intentional

14. consecutive 15. germane

Abbreviations (p.13)

1. also known as 2. any other business 3. cash on delivery
4. District Attorney 5. errors and omissions excepted
6. for example (from Latin *exempli gratia*) 7. free on board
8. Federal Bureau of Investigation 9. Foreign Office
10. grievous bodily harm 11. gross national product
12. identity 13. incorporated 14. I owe you
15. Justice of the Peace 16. letter of credit
17. Member of the European Parliament 18. used to show that a letter has been signed on behalf of someone else (from Latin *per procuracionem*)
19. Public Limited Company 20. proportional representation
21. Queen's Counsel
22. received 23. versus 24. value added tax

Opposites 2 (p.14)

- accidental / deliberate
 acquit / convict
 borrow / lend
 bring forward / defer
 cancel / confirm
 civil / criminal
 confess / deny
 defence / prosecution
 defendant / plaintiff
 guilty / innocent /
 imprison / release
 landlord / tenant

1. guilty 2. convict 3. defer 4. defendant 5. tenant
6. confess 7. borrow 8. civil 9. release 10. defence
11. cancel 12. deliberate

Name the crime 1 (p.15)

1. assault 2. treason 3. piracy 4. burglary 5. blackmail
6. extortion 7. fraud 8. bigamy 9. assassination 10. murder
11. manslaughter 12. forgery 13. bribery 14. slander
15. arson 16. robbery 17. theft 18. smuggling 19. perjury
20. espionage 21. embezzlement 22. libel

Who's speaking? (p.16)

1. prosecution counsel
2. Mark Barry, witness
3. a policeman, witness
4. a passer by, witness
5. Mr Swan, defendant
6. Ellen Barry, witness
7. Mr Swan's secretary, witness
8. judge
9. foreman of the jury
10. defence counsel

Mr Swan had previously lent money to Mr Barry who had made no attempt to pay him back. Mr Swan took the day's

1. disciplined		x	
2. discriminated			x
3. presumed		x	
4. recovered		x	
5. reformed		x	
6. despatched	x		
7. surrendered		x	
8. blackmailed		x	
9. blacklisted			x
10. promised	x		
11. swindled		x	
12. practised	x		
13. represented			x
14. recorded			x
15. adjourned		x	
16. caused		x	
17. sentenced	x		
18. pardoned		x	
19. traded			x
20. summoned		x	
21. financed	x		
22. based	x		
23. published	x		
24. empowered		x	
25. decided			x

Odd one out (p.24)

- alone: the others are marital states
- judge: the others are types of lawyer
- arson: the others are types of theft
- convict: the others happen at the beginning of the legal process
- right: the others are things you have to do
- blackmail: the others are types of unlawful killing
- herewith: the others refer to something in the same document as they appear in
- plea: the others are ways to guarantee money borrowed
- condemnation: the others refer to leniency
- execution: the others are methods
- discredit: the others are words about giving
- ransom: the others refer to taking and holding a person unlawfully
- accidentally: the others describe intentional actions
- appeal: it can only happen after one of the others
- royalty: the others do not refer to payment, only to rights
- contract: the others are relationships
- witness: the others refer to the person who charged with a crime
- deny: it can be the opposite of any of the others

Pronunciation 4 (p.25)

n/vb	①②	①②
1. verb		x

2. noun	x	
3. noun	x	
4. verb		x
5. noun	x	
6. verb		x
7. verb		x
8. noun	x	
9. noun	x	
10. verb		x
11. verb		x
12. noun	x	
13. noun	x	
14. verb		x
15. noun	x	
16. verb		x
17. verb		x
18. noun	x	
19. verb		x
20. noun	x	

Latin pair-up (p.26)

- bona fide
- inter alia
- caveat emptor
- obiter dicta
- vice versa
- viva voce
- compos mentis
- sui generis
- toties quoties
- inter vivos
- habeas corpus
- ipso facto
- doli capax
- per capita
- prima facie

Legal crossword 2 (p.27)

¹ U	L	² T	E	R	³ I	O	R	M	O	⁴ T	I	⁵ V	E	
N		E			O					R		A		⁶ A
⁷ M	I	N	I	M	⁸ U	⁹ M				A		¹⁰ L	A	W
A		A				¹¹ A	V	O	¹² I	D		I		A
¹³ R	E	N	E	¹⁴ W		L			¹⁵ L	E	N	D	E	R
R		C		E		I			L					D
I		Y		¹⁶ S	U	C	C	E	E	D				
E				T		E			G		¹⁷ P	A	R	¹⁸ T
¹⁹ D	E	²⁰ F	A	M	E		²¹ M		A		E			R
		A		I		²² D	E	A	L	I	N	G		A
²³ I	N	L	A	N	D		R			A				I
N		S		S			²⁴ C	I	²⁵ V	I	L	²⁶ I	A	N
C		²⁷ E	N	T	I	T	Y		O			T		
U				E					I		²⁸ D	E	E	D
²⁹ R	E	F	O	R	M			³⁰ R	E	D	E	E	M	

takings from his business (about £1,000) and told his secretary that he was going to the bank. In fact he intended to find Mr Barry and frighten him into returning the money. He took a pistol, which he loaded so as to be able to defend himself if something went wrong. Mr Swan found Mr Barry in the street and demanded his money. They began to argue and Mr Swan produced the gun. Mr Barry tried to run away. In the heat of the moment Mr Swan lost his temper and shot Mr Barry in the leg. He walked away but was arrested within a few minutes. He was charged with assault and malicious wounding and found guilty. He was sentenced to eight years in prison.

Useful verbs 2 (p.17)

Past tense, regular verbs

1. confessed
2. granted
3. accused
4. imprisoned
5. engaged
6. pleaded
7. charged
8. arrested
9. released
10. fined
11. dropped
12. seized
13. served
14. awarded
15. acquitted

Pronunciation 2 (p.18)

	1 /s/	2 /z/	3 /ɪz/
1. pleads		x	
2. helps	x		
3. dismisses			x
4. commutes	x		
5. collects	x		
6. claims		x	
7. discharges			x
8. leases			x
9. repudiates	x		
10. summarises			x
11. disqualifies		x	
12. acquits	x		
13. corroborates	x		
14. intends		x	
15. recommends		x	
16. owns		x	
17. discriminates	x		
18. employs		x	
19. assesses			x
20. taxes			x
21. signs		x	
22. falls		x	
23. corrupts	x		
24. controls		x	
25. advises			x

Prepositions (p.19)

Find the mistakes

1. It says in the newspaper that he's been evading ~~of~~ income tax.
2. The prosecution tried to discredit ~~at~~ the defence witness.
3. I am writing in ~~behalf~~ of Mr and Mrs Smith... *on*
4. I would like to report ~~of~~ a theft.

5. He was awarded £100,000 to compensate ~~of~~ the damages caused by the manufacturer. *for*
6. The directors of the firm were accused ~~of~~ insider trading. *of*
7. If you don't tell me you'll be charged ~~to~~ withholding evidence. *with*
8. In view of your failure to pay, I have instructed ~~to~~ my solicitors to start proceedings immediately.
9. We have referred your question ~~at~~ the tribunal and hope to have an answer for you in the next few days. *to*
10. After six months in prison she will be eligible ~~to~~ parole. *for*
11. The next national holiday falls ~~in~~ a Monday. *on*
12. They decided to sue ~~at~~ the landlord for failure to maintain the property.
13. During the appeal he claimed that the original judge had been biased in favour ~~to~~ the plaintiff. *of*
14. The defendant was negligent ~~to~~ carrying out his duties as a trustee. *in*
15. The company was declared to be ~~of~~ a state of insolvency. *in*
16. My client disagrees with clause 6 of the contract which expressly forbids ~~to~~ sales in the USA.
17. The judge ruled that her evidence was inadmissible and it was expunged ~~of~~ the report. *from*
18. Does the bill include ~~of~~ VAT or is that extra?
19. The judge acquitted ~~to~~ the husband but imposed a £250 fine on the wife.
20. He was found guilty of all charges and sentenced ~~of~~ five years in prison. *to*

Name the crime 2: Defence (p.20)

1. burglary
2. murder
3. embezzlement or fraud
4. piracy
5. smuggling
6. bigamy
7. bribery
8. espionage
9. forgery
10. blackmail

Useful verbs 3 (p.21)

Mixed tenses

1. disclaimed
2. offering
3. appeal
4. embezzling
5. manipulating
6. value
7. advised
8. legislated
9. disclose
10. established
11. followed
12. imposed
13. committed
14. prevent
15. preclude

Phrasal verbs (p.22)

1. broken up
2. passed off
3. took ... in
4. breaking into
5. wound up
6. bring ... forward
7. takes over
8. broke off
9. held up
10. taken over
11. broke down
12. wound up
13. held up
14. holding up
15. handed down
16. put ... into
17. put ... down

Anagrams 2 (p.28)

1. INNOCENT
2. ARSONIST
3. ENTERPRISE
4. RESCUE
5. NATION
6. RECOMMEND
7. DEPENDANT
8. OBLIGATED
9. INSOLVENT
10. CEREMONY
11. EXCLUDED
12. REVENUE
13. LITIGATE
14. FINANCIAL
15. SOLICITOR

Useful verbs 4 (p.29)

Mixed tenses

1. refrain 2. overturn 3. corroborate 4. sentenced
5. sued 6. convicted 7. forfeit 8. found 9. infringes
10. recovered 11. blackmailing 12. promised 13. prohibits
14. arranged 15. exonerated

Adjectives 2 (p.30)

1. guilty 2. dual 3. heavy 4. ostensible 5. competent
6. legal 7. conditional 8. unlimited 9. wilful 10. domestic
11. biased 12. reciprocal 13. official 14. final 15. equal

Politics (p.31)

1. constitution 2. spokesman 3. poll 4. membership
5. devolution 6. legislation 7. houses 8. recess 9. leak
10. policy 11. leader 12. abstentions 13. veto 14. consensus
15. budget

Multiple meanings (p.32)

1. convention 2. principal 3. article 4. estate 5. due 6. state
7. interest 8. express

Test your criminal slang (p.33)

1. a fence 2. a brief 3. a mug 4. a screw 5. a scam
6. a nark 7. bent 8. inside 9. hot 10. the law
11. to nick 12. to blag 13. to grass 14. to launder money

Quiz (p.34)

1. none of them
2. American
3. green
4. a business person or office worker who uses their job to steal or commit fraud
5. The Prime Minister
6. that the amount of money to be paid out in the event of business failure is limited to the original investment
7. once - it is his or her first speech on becoming an MP from the first time
8. the right to remain silent
9. Oval
10. black
11. fifty (plus the District of Columbia)
12. House of Lords
13. will
14. hard currencies can be used and exchanged easily on international markets
15. England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland

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