

Muestras de los ejercicios

Nivel: «Corporativo»

THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Unit 14 / Foundation

WORKING IN LAW

Exercise 1

Look at this list of legal occupations. All of these people work in law. We call all of the people who work in these jobs 'the legal profession'. Match the jobs with one of the descriptions.

Solicitor Attorney Barrister Lawyer

- a This person is a lawyer who gives legal advice and opinions to solicitors. He or she passed the exams of The Bar Council at the end of his or her studies.
- b This person is a lawyer who gives legal advice to individuals and companies. He or she passed his or her exams in the USA at the end of his or her studies and is usually a member of the American Bar Association.
- c This person is a lawyer who gives legal advice to individuals and companies. He or she passed the exams of The Law Society of England & Wales at the end of his or her studies.
- d This is the general job title that we use for people who work as a solicitor, barrister or attorney.

Exercise 2

Read this text about working in law. The most important words are in the key vocabulary below. Decide if the statements on the next page are true or false.

Key vocabulary

- lawyer
- practise
- barristers
- law firm
- attorney
- judge
- training contract
- acting for
- qualified
- legal practice
- partnership
- represent
- litigation
- advocacy
- pleading a case
- specialise
- right of audience
- appear
- solicitors
- clients

There are two types of **lawyer** who **practise** in England. They are called **barristers** and **solicitors**. In the USA and most other countries, lawyers don't make this distinction – a lawyer is simply known as an attorney-at-law, or an **attorney**.

In both England and the USA, it is not possible to take a special exam to be a **judge**. If you decide that you want to be a judge, you must get a lot of experience as a lawyer first, then apply to be a judge and wait to see if you are chosen.

Most law students in England become **solicitors**. When they finish their university studies they do a one-year legal practice course and then a two-year **training contract** with a **law firm**. After that, they are **qualified** solicitors. Many solicitors work for a **legal practice**, which is usually a **partnership** of solicitors

who work together. Solicitors practise in many areas of law, although each solicitor usually chooses to **specialise** in one particular area. They **represent** their **clients** both in and out of court. We often describe this as **acting for** a client. The process of making a claim in the civil court is called **litigation**.

Barristers are usually self-employed lawyers but can work in partnerships in the way that solicitors do. They are specialists in **advocacy**, which is the skill of speaking for someone in court. We call this **pleading a case**. They also give opinions on areas of law to solicitors and the solicitors' clients. It is not just barristers who have the **right of audience** in court. Solicitors are also allowed to represent their clients in court and many solicitors **appear** in court every day. It is not true to say that a client always needs a barrister in court.

Exercise 4

Choose a word or phrase from the box to complete the sentences.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| ● drafting | ● criminal law | ● goods | ● the law of tort |
| ● the law of equity and trusts | ● valid | ● intellectual property law | ● family law |
| | ● based in | | ● merged |

- a A lawyer who deals with clients who are in trouble with the police is a specialist in _____.
- b Last year my bank _____ with a big German bank and they are now called EuropBank. I think they are the biggest bank in Europe now!
- c A lawyer who deals with clients who create new inventions such as medicines, machines or new artistic works such as books or music, is a specialist in _____.
- d I spent three hours this morning _____ a contract for my new client. I think the contract is ready for him to read and sign now.
- e I want to put some of my money into a fund for the benefit of my grandchildren, which they will have when they reach the age of 18. I need to see a lawyer who is a specialist in _____.
- f Well, I am from London but I am _____ Amsterdam at the moment because I am working for a Dutch company.
- g A lawyer who deals with clients who are divorcing or who have problems over the care of their children is a specialist in _____.
- h The company delivers _____ all over the United States by rail and by truck.
- i A lawyer who deals with people who breach their civil duty of care is a specialist in _____.
- j That contract is not _____ because your client has not signed it.

Exercise 5

Look at the words and phrases in the box. All of the words are connected with specific areas of law. Put the words into the correct sentence to complete the definitions.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| ● unfair dismissal | ● landlord | ● capital | ● redundancy |
| ● lease of land and buildings | ● maternity leave | ● sick pay | ● partnership |
| ● formation of a business | ● discriminate | ● insolvent | ● merger |
| | ● tenant | ● conveyancing | ● real estate |

- a To be _____ means not having enough money to pay your debts.
- b A _____ is the joining together of two or more things, such as companies, to form one single thing or company.
- c A _____ is a person who pays rent to the owner of a house, a flat or an office in return for living there, or for using the building for business purposes.

- d** _____ is the legal process involved in transferring the ownership of a house or land from the seller to the buyer.
- e** To _____ against someone means to behave differently towards that person, usually in the workplace, because of their age, sex or the colour of their skin.
- f** _____ is a situation where someone loses his or her job for a reason that is not valid.
- g** _____ is money that an employer must pay to an employee when that employee is ill and cannot work.
- h** A _____ is an agreement to allow someone to use land or buildings for a fixed period of time in return for a payment of rent.
- i** The _____ is the establishment of a new business in a specific way.
- j** A _____ is a business which a minimum of two people own and control.
- k** _____ is the time period when a woman is not at work before and after the birth of her baby. Her employer usually pays her for part or all of the time that she is away.
- l** _____ is the total amount of money, property and other assets that a business has.
- m** _____ is a situation where someone loses his or her job because an employer no longer needs so many employees.
- n** A _____ is a person who owns a house, a flat or office and receives rent from someone for allowing them to live there, or use the building for business purposes.
- o** _____ is a more formal way of saying land and buildings.

Help desk**What do these words mean?**

ownership – to have ownership of a property means that the property belongs to you. You are the owner of the property.

assets – things that a person or company owns.

debts – sums of money that you owe.

rent – the money that someone pays, usually every month, to use a flat, a house or an office that belongs to someone else.

fixed – something that is fixed is certain and cannot be changed.

Exercise 6

All of the words and phrases in Exercise 5 belong to either employment law, business law or land law. Put each word or phrase under the correct area of law.

Employment law	Business law	Land law
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____