



NAÇÃO  
FLUENTE

# Inglês Técnico

**Direito**



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# Introdução

Neste material, iremos explorar o vocabulário e as expressões essenciais necessárias para uma comunicação eficaz no contexto jurídico.

Você desenvolverá habilidades para articular argumentos de forma clara e precisa, enquanto adquire a capacidade de compreender e responder de maneira eficaz às demandas e nuances do sistema legal.

Estamos ansiosos para iniciar esta jornada de aprendizado com você, contribuindo para o seu sucesso profissional como advogado no cenário internacional!

Vamos começar!

# Orientação

**Siga estas orientações para otimizar o uso deste material e potencializar o seu aprendizado**

- ❶ Imprima este PDF;
- ❷ Destaque com caneta marca-texto as palavras desconhecidas;
- ❸ Leia a coluna *meaning* para descobrir o significado, sem usar tradutores;
- ❹ Construa frases com aplicação das novas palavras que você está aprendendo.

Se precisar de inspiração, use o [dictionary.cambridge.org](https://dictionary.cambridge.org)

Faça isso por meio da escrita e não da digitação, pois isso potencializa o armazenamento do novo conhecimento na memória de longo prazo.

# Expressões

## Exemplos

<b>Advocate (to)</b> Defender	<b>The lawyer was hired to advocate on behalf of the client's rights in court.</b> O advogado foi contratado para defender os direitos do cliente no tribunal.
<b>Alimony</b> Pensão alimentícia	<b>My sister's ex-husband pays alimony for their son.</b> O ex-marido de minha irmã paga pensão alimentícia pelo filho.
<b>Appeal</b> Recurso	<b>Most jurisdictions authorize an appeal only from the entry of a final judgment in the action.</b> A maioria das jurisdições autoriza um recurso somente a partir da entrada de uma sentença final na ação.
<b>Arrested</b> Preso	<b>My sister was arrested last night. I wonder what she did!</b> Minha irmã foi presa ontem à noite. Eu me pergunto o que ela fez!
<b>Burden of proof</b> Ônus da prova	<b>However, we do have serious misgivings on the issue of the reversal of the burden of proof.</b> No entanto, temos sérias dúvidas sobre a reversão do ônus da prova.
<b>Charge (to)</b> Acusar	<b>He was charged with fraud after the investigation concluded.</b> Ele foi acusado de fraude após a conclusão da investigação.
<b>Court</b> Tribunal	<b>The lawyer brought a new claim before the court.</b> O advogado trouxe uma nova declaração perante o tribunal.
<b>Defendant</b> Réu	<b>At first instance, the judge declared the defendant guilty.</b> Em primeira instância, o juiz declarou o réu culpado.
<b>Deposition</b> Depoimento	<b>She gave her deposition last week. We are going to use it in court today.</b> Ela deu seu depoimento na semana passada. Hoje vamos usá-lo no tribunal.
<b>Fee</b> Honorário	<b>My lawyer is a friend of mine and did not ask for a fee.</b> Meu advogado é um amigo meu e não cobrou honorários.

# Expressões

## Exemplos

<b>Fine</b> Multa	<b>If found guilty, he faces six months in jail and a heavy fine.</b> Se considerado culpado, ele enfrenta seis meses de prisão e uma pesada multa.
<b>Item</b> Inciso	<b>Feasibility studies are temporarily suspended, awaiting the regulation of item VI of article 26 of Law 9.427 / 1996.</b> Os estudos de viabilidade estão suspensos temporariamente, aguardando a regulamentação do inciso VI do artigo 26 da Lei 9.427 / 1996.
<b>Legal</b> Jurídico	<b>My legal advisor approved the terms of the contract.</b> Meu assessor jurídico aprovou os termos do contrato.
<b>Misdemeanor</b> Contravenção	<b>She had to pay a fine for vandalism, which is a misdemeanor in this city.</b> Ela teve que pagar uma multa por vandalismo, que é uma contravenção nesta cidade.
<b>Parole</b> Liberdade condicional	<b>She hopes to be eligible for parole in three years.</b> Ela espera ser elegível para liberdade condicional em três anos.
<b>Plea</b> Declarar/Alegar	<b>The defendant pleaded not guilty to robbery with violence.</b> O réu se declarou inocente de assalto com violência.
<b>Power of Attorney</b> Procuração	<b>My brother has the power of attorney in this matter. He will know what to do.</b> Meu irmão tem uma procuração nesse assunto. Ele saberá o que fazer.
<b>Prosecutor</b> Promotor	<b>The defense and prosecutors agreed to recommend a one-year jail sentence.</b> A defesa e os promotores concordaram em recomendar uma sentença de prisão de um ano.
<b>Regulate</b> Regulamentar	<b>The aim of the proposal is to regulate the limits of the air carrier's liability in the event of death.</b> O objetivo da proposta é regulamentar os limites de responsabilidade da transportadora aérea em caso de morte.
<b>Settlement</b> Acordo	<b>Luckily they were able to reach a settlement before they had to go to court.</b> O réu parece muito nervoso durante o julgamento. Eu acho que ele era culpado.

# Expressões

## Exemplos

<b>Subpoenas</b> Intimação	<b>They need to respond to legal demands such as subpoenas or search warrants.</b> Eles precisam responder a demandas legais, como intimações ou mandados de busca.
<b>Sue</b> Processar	<b>Tanya's family sued the hospital for negligence after she'd been given the wrong medicine.</b> A família de Tanya processou o hospital por negligência depois de receber o remédio errado.
<b>Suit</b> Ação	<b>After my unfair dismissal, I filed a suit against the company.</b> Após minha demissão sem justa causa, movi uma ação contra a empresa.
<b>Trial</b> Julgamento	<b>The defendant seems very nervous during the trial. I think he did do the crime.</b> O réu parece muito nervoso durante o julgamento. Eu acho que ele cometeu o crime.

# Glossário

## A

<b>Abandonment</b>	The act of intentionally and permanently giving up, surrendering, deserting or relinquishing property, premises, a right of way, a ship, contract rights, a spouse and/or children.
<b>Abatement</b>	1) The removal of a problem which is against public or private policy, or endangers others, including nuisances such as weeds that might catch fire on an otherwise empty lot; 2) an equal reduction of recovery of debts by all creditors when there are not enough funds or assets to pay the full amount; 3) an equal reduction of benefits to beneficiaries (heirs) when an estate is not large enough to pay each beneficiary in full.
<b>Abduction</b>	Taking someone away by force.
<b>Ab initio</b>	From the start of something. (This phrase is Latin.)
<b>Abovementioned</b>	Describing something which has been referred to before in the document.
<b>Abscond</b>	1) Traditionally to leave a jurisdiction (where the court, a process server or law enforcement can find one) to avoid being served with legal papers or being arrested. 2) a surprise leaving with funds or goods that have been stolen, as in "he absconded with the loot.
<b>Absolute</b>	Complete and unconditional.
<b>Absolute discharge</b>	Someone who has been convicted of an offence being released without any penalty. (They may still have to pay compensation though.)
<b>Absolute owner</b>	The only owner of property such as equipment, buildings, land or vehicles.
<b>Absolute privilege</b>	a defence which can be used in a case of defamation if the statement from which the defamation arose was: made in Parliament; in fair and accurate news reporting of court proceedings; or made during court proceedings.
<b>Abstract of title</b>	The written report on a title search which shows the history of every change of ownership on a piece of real estate, and any claims against the property, such as easements on the property, loans against it, deeds of trust, mortgages, liens, judgments, and real property taxes. Some abstracts only go back in history to the last change in title.

## Glossário

<b>Abuse of process</b>	The use of legal process by illegal, malicious, or perverted means.
<b>Abuttals</b>	A boundary of land with respect to other contiguous lands or roads by which it is bounded.
<b>Acceptance</b>	1) Receiving something from another with the intent to keep it, and showing that this was based on a previous agreement. 2) Agreeing verbally or in writing to the terms of a contract, which is one of the requirements to show there was a contract (an offer and an acceptance of that offer). A written offer can be accepted only in writing. 3) Receiving goods with the intention of paying for them if a sale has been agreed to. 4) Agreement to pay a bill of exchange, which can be an "absolute acceptance" (to pay as the bill is written) or "conditional acceptance" (to pay only when some condition actually occurs such as the shipment or delivery of certain goods). "Acceptance" is most often used in the factual determination of whether a contract was entered into.
<b>Acceptance of service</b>	When a solicitor accepts a writ on behalf of a client.
<b>Acceptor</b>	Someone who agrees to pay or do something that is written on a special piece of paper called a negotiable instrument. This means that they are responsible for making sure the payment or action is completed
<b>Accessory</b>	Someone who encourages or helps another person to commit a crime.
<b>Accomplice</b>	Someone who helps another person to commit a crime.
<b>Accordingly</b>	A word used in legal documents which means therefore or so.
<b>Account</b>	A record of debit and credit entries to cover transactions involving a particular item (as cash or notes receivable) or a particular person or concern
<b>Accumulation</b>	Typically refers to the process of collecting or gathering income, assets, or benefits over time, often within the framework of trusts or estates.

## Glossário

<b>Accused</b>	An individual who has been formally charged with a crime or who is alleged to have committed an offense.
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	The formal recognition or acceptance of a fact, document, or situation.
<b>Acknowledgement of service</b>	When a defendant agrees that a writ or originating summons ('claim form' since April 1999) has been received. The defendant fills in, signs and sends back the acknowledgement of service to confirm in writing that the documents were received.
<b>Acquit</b>	What a jury or judge sitting without a jury does at the end of a criminal trial if the jury or judge finds the accused defendant not guilty
<b>Acquittal</b>	When a court lets a person go without any penalty. If a court decides that a person is not guilty of a crime, or the case has not been proved, it will acquit the person.
<b>Active trust</b>	A trust in which legal title remains in the trustee who has a duty to act affirmatively (as in exercising control, discretion, and judgment) with regard to the property compare passive trust in this entry.
<b>Act of bankruptcy</b>	A specific action taken by a debtor that indicates an inability to pay debts and can trigger bankruptcy proceedings.
<b>Act of God</b>	A natural event that is unexpected and unavoidable, such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or other extreme weather conditions. In legal contexts, this term is often used to explain why a party cannot fulfill a contractual obligation due to these unforeseen events. It can limit liability, as parties may not be held responsible for damages caused by such natural disasters.
<b>Actual bodily harm</b>	Any injury calculated to interfere with the health or comfort of the victim. It does not need to be permanent but it must be more than merely transient. The upper limit of actual bodily harm is generally taken to be bruising and minor abrasions where neither skin nor bones are broken but it can extend to a broken tooth and minor fractures such as a broken nose; and it also extends to medically recognised psychological harm (such as stress) but not to purely emotional states such as alarm, panic or distress.



# Glossário

<b>Actual loss</b>	An undesirable outcome of a risk that results in the disappearance or reduction of value, usually in an unexpected or unpredictable way. It can be calculated by determining the difference between the original cost of something and its later selling price.
<b>Actuary</b>	An expert on pension scheme assets and liabilities, life expectancy and probabilities (the likelihood of things happening) for insurance purposes. An actuary works out whether enough money is being paid into a pension scheme to pay the pensions when they are due.
<b>Actus reus</b>	Actus reus refers to the act or omission that comprise the physical elements of a crime as required by statute. Actus reus includes only a voluntary affirmative act, or an omission (failure to act), causing a criminally proscribed result.
<b>Additional voluntary contribution (AVC)</b>	Extra money people in occupational pension schemes can pay in to increase their pension benefits.
<b>Ademption</b>	The act of adeeming, which is revoking (getting rid of) a gift mentioned in a will by destruction, or selling or giving away the gift before death.
<b>Ad hoc</b>	For a particular purpose. For example, a committee set up to deal with a particular situation is an ad hoc committee. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Ad idem</b>	In agreement: at a meeting of the minds (This term is Latin.)
<b>Ad infinitum</b>	Endlessly or forever. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Adjourned sine die</b>	When a court case has no date fixed for it to continue.
<b>Adjournment</b>	Postponing a court hearing.
<b>Adjudge/ adjudicate</b>	To give an official judgement about something. For example, if someone cannot pay their debts a court may adjudge them bankrupt.
<b>Adjudication order</b>	The former name for a court order which made someone bankrupt. It has now been replaced with the term bankruptcy order.

## Glossário

<b>Administration order</b>	A formal and legally-binding agreement between you and your creditors to pay back your debts over a period of time.
<b>Administrator</b>	A person appointed by the court to manage the estate of someone who has died without a will, or when there's a will but no executor available.
<b>Admissibility of evidence</b>	Evidence which the trial judge finds is useful in helping the trier of fact (a jury if there is a jury, otherwise the judge), and which cannot be objected to on the basis that it is irrelevant, immaterial, or violates the rules against hearsay and other objections.
<b>Admission</b>	One side in a case agreeing that something the other side has alleged is true.
<b>Admonition</b>	An admonition is direction, warning or advice from a judge. A judge can admonish anyone in the courtroom, including defendants, prosecutors, witnesses and spectators.
<b>Adoption</b>	A legal process through which an individual or couple becomes the legal parents of a child who is not biologically their own.
<b>Adoptive child</b>	A child who has been legally adopted.
<b>Adoptive parent</b>	A person who has legally adopted a child.
<b>Ad valorem</b>	In proportion to the value. An ad valorem duty goes up as the value of the goods, shares and so on that it is charged on rises. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Adverse possession</b>	Adverse possession is a doctrine under which a trespasser, in physical possession of land owned by someone else may acquire valid title to the property.
<b>Adverse witness</b>	A witness who gives evidence which damages the case of the side which asked the witness to testify for them.
<b>Advocate</b>	As a noun, an advocate is an individual who actively supports and promotes the interests of another person or enterprise. As a verb, to advocate is the act of promoting the interest of another person or group.
<b>Affirmation</b>	A solemn declaration allowed to those who conscientiously object to taking an oath.

## Glossário

<b>Affidavit</b>	A written statement which is sworn to be true by the person signing it. It is sworn before someone authorised by the cou
<b>Affirm</b>	1) To assert as true or factual; 2) to assert (as a judgment) as valid or confirmed, compare remand, reverse; 3) to make a solemn declaration under the penalties of perjury in place of swearing an oath to which one conscientiously objects.
<b>Affray</b>	Fighting unlawfully. It is a criminal offence.
<b>Aforementioned</b>	Describing something referred to previously in the document.
<b>Aforesaid</b>	Describing something which has been said or referred to before in the document.
<b>Agency</b>	The relationship between a principal and an agent.
<b>Agent</b>	Someone appointed to act for a principal.
<b>Age of consent</b>	The age when a girl can consent to have sexual intercourse. In the UK it is 16.
<b>Aggravated assault</b>	The crime of physically attacking another person which results in serious bodily harm and/or is made with a deadly or dangerous weapon such as a gun, knife, sword, ax or blunt instrument. Aggravated assault is usually a felony punishable by a term in state prison.
<b>Aggravated burglary</b>	Entering premises armed with a weapon, intending to steal goods.
<b>Aggravated damages</b>	Extra damages awarded because the defendant has caused the victim anguish, loss of self-respect or shame.
<b>Aggravated vehicle taking</b>	Stealing a vehicle, driving it dangerously and as a result injuring someone or damaging property.
<b>Agricultural holding</b>	An agricultural holding, or holding or farm is a single unit, both technically and economically, operating under a single management and which undertakes economic activities in agriculture within the economic territory of the European Union, either as its primary or secondary activity. The holding may also provide other supplementary (non-agricultural) products and services.

## Glossário

<b>Aiding and abetting</b>	Helping someone to commit a crime.
<b>Airspace</b>	The space in the atmosphere directly above a piece of land. If you own a piece of land you also own the airspace above the land.
<b>Alias</b>	A false name. A name used other than the given name of a person or reference to that other name, which may not be an attempt to hide his/her identity.
<b>Alibi</b>	A claim that a person was elsewhere when a crime was committed. If someone is accused of a crime their alibi is: evidence that the person was somewhere else when the crime was committed; or an attempt to prove that the person was somewhere else when the crime was committed.
<b>Alienation</b>	The transfer of title to real property, voluntarily and completely. It does not apply to interests other than title, such as a mortgage.
<b>All and sundry</b>	Refers to everyone or all people, often implying that the statement or action includes every person without exception. It's typically used to indicate that something is available or applicable to everyone.
<b>Allegation</b>	An unproved statement declaring that something has happened.
<b>Alleviate</b>	To lessen or reduce.
<b>Allocation rate</b>	The proportion of money left to be invested after charges have been taken off when money is paid into a fund (such as a pension fund). For example, if the charges were 2%, the allocation rate would be 98%.
<b>Allotment</b>	Shares allocated to a buyer. An allotment of shares in a company gives the owner (of the allotment) an unconditional right to buy the shares at a fixed price.
<b>All the words</b>	It can refer to the "all the words" clause, which is a legal term used in property conveyancing. It signifies that all relevant terms and descriptions of the property being conveyed are included in the document. This phrase ensures that the intent of the parties regarding the property transfer is clearly articulated.

# Glossário

<b>Alternate director</b>	A person appointed by a director to take the director's place.
<b>Alternative verdict</b>	A person being found guilty of a less serious crime than the one they were charged with. If a more serious charge has not been proved and the defendant has been found not guilty, the defendant may be found guilty of a less serious crime instead. For example, there may not be enough evidence to convict someone of a murder but there may still be enough for a manslaughter conviction. This is known as an alternative verdict.
<b>Amalgamation</b>	An amalgamation is the combination of two or more companies into an entirely new entity. Amalgamations are distinct from acquisitions in that none of the companies involved in the transaction survive as a legal entity.
<b>Ambiguity</b>	Capability of more than one meaning. When a statement's meaning is not clear because it is capable of more than one meaning, it contains an ambiguity.
<b>Ambulatory will</b>	A will which can be revoked or changed while the person who made it is still living.
<b>Amnesty</b>	Amnesty is to grant a pardon to those who have committed an offense.
<b>Ancient lights</b>	The right not to have the light you receive from a neighbour's land blocked.
<b>Annual accounts</b>	Annual accounts refer to the financial statements prepared by a company at the end of each financial year to showcase its financial position.
<b>Annual general meeting</b>	The yearly meeting of the members of an organisation which must be held to meet legal conditions. The annual accounts are presented for approval at this meeting.
<b>Annual return</b>	A return which must be sent by companies to the Registrar of Companies. Each year the officers of a company have to fill in an annual return with details of the members, officers, shares issued and other information about the company. The return is then sent to Companies House for filing and is available for inspection by members of the public.
<b>Annuitant</b>	The person who gets paid an annuity.

## Glossário

<b>Annuity</b>	An amount paid out every year to someone. The money usually comes from an insurance policy. It can be split up into smaller amounts and be paid out more frequently, such as monthly. It is usually paid for the rest of the beneficiary's life.
<b>Annul</b>	To cancel: an invalid marriage; or a bankruptcy order.
<b>Ante</b>	Before. (This is a Latin word.)
<b>Antecedents</b>	Details about the past of a defendant or a person found guilty of a crime. The information about previous crimes, background and bad behaviour is given to the court before the sentence is given.
<b>Antenuptial agreement</b>	A legal agreement between two people who are about to get married. The agreement sets out how the couple's assets will be divided between them if they later divorce.
<b>Anton Piller order</b>	An order by the High Court. It gives the applicant permission to search the defendant's premises for evidence, inspect it and take it away. It is intended to prevent evidence being destroyed or hidden which would be relevant to the case. (Since April 1999, this has been known as a 'search order'.)
<b>Appeal</b>	Asking a court to overturn a lower court's decision. If the decision of a court is disputed it may be possible to ask a higher court to consider the case again by lodging an appeal.
<b>Appellant</b>	The person who is appealing to a court against a decision of a lower court.
<b>Appellate jurisdiction</b>	The authority a court has to hear an appeal against a decision made by a lower court.
<b>Appertaining to applicant</b>	The person asking a court to do something.
<b>Appointee</b>	The person who gets the benefit of the use of a power of appointment.
<b>Appointor</b>	The person who uses a power of appointment.



# Glossário

<b>Appurtenances</b>	An appurtenance refers to something that, while technically detachable, is so fundamental to something else that it should be regarded as a part of the whole. In the event that property transfers hands, all appurtenances usually transfer as well. Determining whether something qualifies as an appurtenance is especially important when liens on property are at play.
<b>Arbitrage</b>	borrowing money at a low rate of interest to lend out again at a higher rate; or buying and selling in different markets to make profits out of the price differences.
<b>Arbitration</b>	Settling a dispute by using a referee. If a dispute goes to arbitration it is settled by an independent referee. It avoids having to use the courts to settle the dispute.
<b>Arbitrator</b>	The independent referee who settles a dispute without the need to use the courts.
<b>Arraignment</b>	A procedure at the start of a trial when details of the offences are read out and the defendants are asked whether they will plead guilty or not guilty.
<b>Arrest</b>	To seize someone, usually because they are suspected of committing a crime, and take them into custody.
<b>Arrestable offence</b>	A crime for which a person may be arrested without a warrant being needed.
<b>Arson</b>	Setting fire to something to cause damage to it.
<b>Articles</b>	A paragraph or section of any writing such as each portion of a will, corporate charter (articles of incorporation), or different sections of a statute.
<b>Articles of association</b>	Articles of association are a legal document that outlines the rules and regulations governing the operations of a company. Articles of association are a key part of a company's constitutional documents. Broadly, articles of association detail and outline the company's structure, roles and responsibilities of its directors and shareholders, and how the company will be managed.
<b>Assault</b>	When someone threatens another person with physical harm. Words on their own do not amount to assault but threatening gestures do, even if the person threatened is not touched.

# Glossário

<b>Assent</b>	A document used by personal representatives to transfer property to a beneficiary.
<b>Asset</b>	Something owned such as a building, a vehicle or money in the bank.
<b>Assign</b>	To transfer to another person any asset such as real property or a valuable right such as a contract or promissory note.
<b>Assignment</b>	The formal transfer of the rights to something. An example would be a bank customer assigning to the bank the right to receive the benefits from a life insurance policy to give the bank security for a loan.
<b>Assurance</b>	A term interchangeable with insurance but generally used in connection with life business as assurance implies the certainty of an event and insurance the probability.
<b>Assure</b>	To transfer the ownership of something.
<b>Assured</b>	The person whose life is insured or who is entitled to receive the benefit from the assurance cover.
<b>Assured shorthold tenancy</b>	A type of tenancy agreement under which the landlord has the right to take the property back at the end of the tenancy agreement.
<b>Attachment of earnings</b>	A court order that deductions be made from a person's earnings. The employer pays the money collected to the court and the court pays the money to the people it is owed to.
<b>Attest</b>	To sign to witness a signature on a document.
<b>Attorney</b>	A person appointed to act for another person (such as when someone cannot look after their own affairs). A formal document called a power of attorney is used to appoint the attorney. It is also the name used for a US lawyer.
<b>Attorney General</b>	The chief legal adviser to the Government. He or she must be a Member of Parliament (or have a seat in the House of Lords) and must be a barrister.
<b>Audit</b>	An independent examination of an organisation's records and financial statements (report and accounts) to make sure that: the financial statements show a fair reflection of the financial position at the accounting date; the income and spending is shown accurately; the financial statements meet any legal conditions; and the financial statements are drawn up clearly.



## Glossário

<b>Auditor's report</b>	A report and opinion, by an independent person or firm, on an organisation's financial records.
<b>Authorised share capital</b>	The highest amount of share capital that a company can issue. The amount is set out in the company's memorandum of association.
<b>Authorised investments</b>	Investments in which a trustee is permitted to invest trust money, under an Act of Parliament.
<b>Autopsy</b>	An examination of a dead body to find the cause of death.

### B

<b>Bail</b>	To pay, or promise to pay, an amount of money so that an accused person is not put in prison before the trial. If the accused person does not appear at the trial, the court can keep the money put up for bail.
<b>Bailee</b>	A person or organisation looking after valuable items to keep them safe for the owner.
<b>Bail hostel</b>	Accommodation found for people charged with offences and released on bail, but who do not have a permanent address so that the police know where to find them.
<b>Bailiff</b>	An officer of the court who carries out the court's orders, such as taking a debtor's goods and selling them to get money to pay the debtor's debts. A bailiff can also personally deliver (serve) documents on people.
<b>Bailiwick</b>	The area over which a bailiff has jurisdiction.
<b>Bailment</b>	Transferring possession of goods from the owner to someone else. The ownership of the goods is not transferred. A practical example of bailment is that someone who hires a television has possession of it, but the rental company still owns the television.
<b>Bailor</b>	The owner of valuable items which are in the possession of another person or organisation for safekeeping.
<b>Balance sheet</b>	A summary of an organisation's financial position. It lists the values, in the books of account on a particular date, of all the organisation's assets and liabilities. The assets and liabilities are grouped in categories and paint a picture of the organisation's strengths and weaknesses.

## Glossário

<b>Banker's draft</b>	A cheque drawn by a bank on itself. It is used when there must be certainty that a cheque will be paid.
<b>Bankrupt</b>	Someone who has had a bankruptcy order.
<b>Bankruptcy order</b>	An order that a court may issue against someone if they cannot pay their debts when they are due to be paid. This order takes ownership of the debtor's property away from the debtor and allows much of the property to be sold. The money raised is divided between the creditors following strict rules.
<b>Bankruptcy search</b>	A document which says whether or not someone is bankrupt.
<b>Bar</b>	The collective term for barristers. When a lawyer becomes a barrister, it is called 'being called to the bar'.
<b>Bare trust</b>	A bare trustee holds property on behalf of a beneficiary but has no active role in managing the property. The beneficiary has the right to demand the return of the property at any time. In a bare trust, the trustee's role is primarily administrative, and the beneficiary retains full control over the trust assets.
<b>Bare trustee</b>	Someone who holds property on behalf of another person until asked to return the property.
<b>Bargain and sale</b>	A written agreement for the sale of land where the buyer gives valuable consideration without having to enter the land.
<b>Barrister</b>	A lawyer who can speak in the higher courts, which a solicitor is not allowed to do.
<b>Barter</b>	A way of paying for things by exchanging goods instead of using money.
<b>Battery</b>	A criminal offense involving unlawful physical contact, distinct from assault, which is the act of creating apprehension of such contact. Battery is a specific common law offense, although the term is used more generally to refer to any unlawful offensive physical contact with another person.
<b>Bearer</b>	Anyone holding something, such as a check, promissory note, bank draft, or bond. This becomes important when the document (generally called a "negotiable instrument") states it is "payable to bearer," which means whoever holds this paper can receive the funds due on it.

## Glossário

<b>Bench</b>	The name for the judges or magistrates in a court.
<b>Bench warrant</b>	A warrant issued by a court for the arrest of an accused person who has failed to attend court. It is also issued when someone has committed contempt of court and can't be traced.
<b>Beneficial interest</b>	A right to income or use of assets in a trust. People with a beneficial interest do not own title to the property, but they have some right to benefit from the property. This is to be contrasted with trustees and other agents of the trust who only have managing duties.
<b>Beneficial owner</b>	The owner of a piece of land (and the buildings on it). Beneficial owners have the right: to the income their land generates; or to use the land for their own purposes. It can also be a person who really owns something even though it is held in someone else's name.
<b>Beneficiary</b>	Someone who benefits from a will, a trust or a life insurance policy.
<b>Bequeath</b>	To leave something (such as possessions or money) to someone in your will. You cannot bequeath land or real property but you can devise them instead.
<b>Bequest</b>	Something given in a will, other than land or real property.
<b>Bigamy</b>	The offence committed by someone who is already married but still goes through a marriage ceremony with someone else.
<b>Bill of costs</b>	The invoice the solicitor sends to a client giving details of any disbursements the solicitor has paid on behalf of the client, the fee the solicitor is charging and any expenses.
<b>Bill of exchange</b>	A signed written order, instructing the person it is addressed to to pay an amount of money to someone. A cheque is a type of bill of exchange.
<b>Bill of lading</b>	A document recording the goods a ship carries and the terms the goods are carried under.
<b>Bill of sale</b>	A document which transfers ownership of goods from one person to another.

## Glossário

<b>Binding effect</b>	A contract refers to the legal obligation that the parties have to adhere to the terms of the agreement. When a contract is legally binding, it means that the parties are required to perform their duties as outlined in the contract, and failure to do so can result in legal consequences.
<b>Binding over</b>	An order by a court in a criminal case. If someone has misbehaved or broken the peace, magistrates can bind them over. The magistrates can order them to pay a bond. This will be forfeited (won't be repaid) if the binding over terms are broken.
<b>Binding precedent</b>	Legal decisions made by higher courts that must be followed by lower courts within the same jurisdiction. This concept is a key component of the doctrine of stare decisis, which means "to stand by things decided."
<b>Blackmail</b>	Demanding payment from a person in return for not revealing something shameful about them.
<b>Bodily harm</b>	Any physical injury or impairment suffered by an individual due to the actions of another person. This term is often used in legal contexts, particularly in criminal law and tort law, to describe injuries that result from intentional or negligent actions.
<b>Bona fide</b>	Genuine, sincere or in good faith. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Bona vacantia</b>	A Latin term meaning "vacant goods" or "ownerless property." In legal contexts, it refers to property that has no identifiable owner and, therefore, is considered to be unclaimed.
<b>Bond</b>	Usually formal written agreement by which a person undertakes to perform a certain act (as appear in court or fulfill the obligations of a contract) or abstain from performing an act (as committing a crime) with the condition that failure to perform or abstain will obligate the person or often a surety to pay a sum of money or will result in the forfeiture of money put up by the person or surety.
<b>Bonded goods</b>	Goods for which a bond has been paid to HM Customs and Excise as security for the duty owed on the goods.
<b>Bonded warehouse</b>	An authorized warehouse where goods are kept and controlled by customs agents. Its main function is to facilitate the international trade process by complying with customs regulations in an efficient manner. The stored goods may belong to the importer, exporter or an authorized third party known as a bonded warehousekeeper.

## Glossário

<b>Bonus shares</b>	Free shares that a company offers to its shareholders, in proportion to their existing shareholdings.
<b>Book value</b>	The value of a fixed asset, such as a building or machine, as recorded in an organisation's books. It is usually the amount paid for the asset less an amount for depreciation.
<b>Bought note</b>	A document showing details of a purchase by someone for a third party. Stockbrokers produce bought notes for their clients. The bought note shows details of the investments the broker has bought for the client, including the price paid and any commission and duty charged.
<b>Breach of contract</b>	Failing to carry out a duty under a contract.
<b>Breach of duty</b>	Breach of duty occurs when a person's conduct fails to meet an applicable standard of care. It is one of the four elements of negligence. If the defendant's conduct fails to meet the required standard of care, they are said to have breached that duty.
<b>Breach of the peace</b>	When harm is done to someone, or harm is threatened.
<b>Breach of trust</b>	When a trustee does something which is against the trust's rules or fails to do something required by the trust's rules.
<b>Break clause</b>	A specific type of termination clause that allows one or both parties to terminate a contract before its natural expiration date, usually under certain conditions. This is often found in leases or long-term contracts.
<b>Bridle way</b>	A path or road which is a right of way for people walking and people leading or riding horses. Cyclists can use it as well but must give way to pedestrians and horses.
<b>Brief</b>	A document prepared by a solicitor which contains the instructions for the barrister to follow when acting for the solicitor in court.
<b>Building preservation notice</b>	A Building Preservation Notice (BPN), also known as a preservation order, is an official notice issued under Section 3 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to prevent any work or changes to a specific building believed to be at risk of alteration or demolition. Serving as an interim measure, the BPN takes immediate effect and protects the building while its potential for listed status is evaluated, ensuring that significant architectural or historical features are preserved.

## Glossário

<b>Burglary</b>	Entering a building without permission with the intention of stealing or doing damage.
<b>Bye-law or bylaw</b>	A law made by a local authority. It only applies within the local authority's boundaries.
<b>Vision</b>	Vision is the dream of what the owners want the organization to be. It should not be confused with strategy, which is the large-scale plan the company follows to make the dream happen.
<b>Warrant</b>	A legal document that allows someone to do something, especially one that is signed by a judge or magistrate and gives the police permission to arrest someone or search their house.
<b>Wholesale</b>	The selling of goods to merchants, usually in large quantities.

## C

<b>Call</b>	Asking people to pay for new shares they have applied for. A company makes a call when it asks buyers of its new shares to pay some, or all, of the share price. When this happens the shares are being called up.
<b>Called-up capital</b>	The amount of share capital shareholders owe, but have not paid, is referred to as called-up capital. Any amount of money that has already been paid by investors in exchange for shares of stock is paid-up capital.
<b>Canon law</b>	A body of religious law governing the conduct of members of a particular faith. especially : the codified church law of the Roman Catholic Church. Note: Common law has been influenced by canon law in the areas of marriage and inheritance.
<b>Capital allowances</b>	Allowances that you can sometimes claim when you buy long-term assets, such as machines, to use in your business. You claim part of the cost against your profits before your tax is worked out for the year.
<b>Capital gain</b>	The profit you make if you sell or dispose of a longterm asset (such as a building) for more than it cost you.
<b>Capital gains tax</b>	A tax charged on certain capital gains.



## Glossário

<b>Capital punishment</b>	Punishing someone for a crime by killing them.
<b>Capital redemption reserve</b>	A company has to have this reserve in its financial records and in its accounts if any of the shares it has issued are cancelled. The reserve cannot be paid out to the members until the company is liquidated and so it prevents the company's capital being reduced.
<b>Careless driving</b>	Driving a car without consideration for other people using the road.
<b>Care order</b>	An order by a court instructing the local authority to care for a child.
<b>Cartel</b>	An agreement between businesses to restrict competition and keep prices high.
<b>Case law</b>	Law that is based on the results of previous court cases.
<b>Case stated</b>	The written statement setting out the facts of a case. It is produced by a magistrates' court when asking the High Court for an opinion on the law.
<b>Causation</b>	One thing being done causing something else to happen.
<b>Cause of action</b>	A cause of action is a set of predefined factual elements that allow for a legal remedy. The factual elements needed for a specific cause of action can come from a constitution, statute, judicial precedent, or administrative regulation.
<b>Causing death by dangerous driving</b>	A criminal offence committed by someone whose driving is dangerous and results in another person being killed. The courts consider dangerous driving to be a very serious offence.
<b>Caution</b>	A warning given by the police to a suspected criminal when the suspect is arrested; a warning given by the police when they release a suspect without prosecution that, if there are any more offences committed by the suspect, the first possible offence may be taken into account; or a document sent to the Land Registry by someone who may have a right over land, which demands that no dealings in the land are registered until the person with the right has been told.

## Glossário

<b>Caveat</b>	The Latin term for a warning is caveat. In legal contexts, "caveat" is often used to indicate a caution or a warning, particularly regarding a claim or a notice to prevent certain actions from being taken without informing the party who issued the caveat.
<b>Caveat emptor</b>	'Buyer beware'. It is used to warn people buying goods that they may not be able to get compensation if the goods they buy are faulty. (This is a Latin term.)
<b>Central Criminal Court</b>	Major legal court responsible for trying crimes within a given jurisdiction.
<b>Certificate of Incorporation</b>	A certificate stating that a company has been incorporated (that is, it has a separate existence from its members). The Registrar of Companies issues the certificate of incorporation once a company has been formed.
<b>Certificate of origin</b>	A certificate stating in which country the goods being imported were made.
<b>Certiorari</b>	An order by the High Court that a case should be reviewed. If the High Court considers that a case heard in a lower court is flawed it may order that it be reviewed by the High Court. (This word is Latin.)
<b>Challenge for cause</b>	When the defence objects to a juror and says why it objects.
<b>Challenge to a jury</b>	When either side in a case objects to the people who have been selected to serve on the jury before they are sworn in.
<b>Challenge to the array</b>	When the defence objects to all the jurors.
<b>Challenge without cause</b>	A challenge without cause refers to a peremptory challenge, where a party dismisses a juror without needing to provide a specific reason. This type of challenge allows for the removal of a juror based solely on the party's discretion, and it does not require the justification that a challenge for cause would necessitate. Each side in a trial usually has a limited number of peremptory challenges.
<b>Chambers</b>	The offices used by barristers and the judge's private office.



## Glossário

<b>Chancery Division</b>	A section of the High Court. It deals with cases involving trusts, land, company law, patents and so on.
<b>Charge</b>	To formally accuse someone of committing a crime; to use property as security for a debt (such as a mortgage); or a direction given by a judge to tell the jury what they must do.
<b>Chargeable event</b>	An event that may create a tax liability (tax bill).
<b>Chargeable gain</b>	A gain on which capital gains tax is payable. If a capital asset such as a building is sold or disposed of at a profit, tax on the gain has to be worked out unless the capital asset is one exempted by law.
<b>Charge certificate</b>	A certificate which the Land Registry issues to the legal mortgagee (the lender) who has lent money on the security of registered land. It is proof of the legal mortgagee's right to the security.
<b>Charges clause</b>	A clause which appears in some contracts and sets out who should pay for certain items.
<b>Charge sheet</b>	The document on which a police officer records details of the accusation against a suspect.
<b>Charges register</b>	A part of the land register that specifically details any financial charges or encumbrances on a property. This includes mortgages, liens, and any other claims that affect the title. The charges register provides important information about any liabilities associated with the property, helping potential buyers and other interested parties understand the financial obligations tied to the land.
<b>Charging clause</b>	Trustees can charge the trust for their services if there is a charging clause.
<b>Charging order</b>	A court judgement which a creditor may get against the person or organisation which owes the money, giving the creditor security over the debtor's property for repayment of the debt.
<b>Charity</b>	An organisation set up to do good for the community, such as help poor people, educate people and protect animals. Most charities are registered with the Charity Commission.

## Glossário

<b>Charity Commission</b>	An organisation responsible for checking that charities are run properly. It also decides whether proposed charities can be placed on the register of charities.
<b>Chattel</b>	Chattel is a catch-all category of property associated with movable goods. At common law, chattel included all property other than real property. Examples include leases, animals, and money. In modern usage, chattel usually only refers to tangible movable personal property.
<b>Chattels personal</b>	The name for tangible goods (goods which can be touched) such as watches, clothes, furniture and so on.
<b>Chattels real</b>	A specific type of personal property that is movable and not fixed to land. This category includes tangible items, such as furniture, vehicles, clothing, and equipment, as well as intangible assets like stocks and bonds.
<b>Cheat</b>	In legal terms, it refers to deceptive practices aimed at misleading someone to gain an unfair advantage or to deprive them of a right. This definition emphasizes the deceitful nature of the act and its violation of common honesty, highlighting its public aspect and intent to defraud.
<b>Cheque</b>	A written order, addressed to a bank, instructing the bank to pay an amount of money to the person or organisation named on the cheque. The bank takes the money out of the relevant customer's account.
<b>Cheque card</b>	A card issued by a bank to a customer. It guarantees that a cheque used with the card will be paid if the person issuing the cheque has kept to all the conditions.
<b>Chief rent</b>	A small rentcharge 'historically' paid to the 'lord of the manor' and is typically only found in older freehold properties with historical connections to the manor system. While it is not directly related to the use of the land, chief rent can still impact property owners and it's important to understand the terms of any rent charges associated with a property.
<b>Child abuse</b>	Molestation or ill-treatment suffered by a child.

# Glossário

<b>Child assessment order</b>	A court order that allows a local authority to assess a child's needs and circumstances when there are concerns about their welfare.
<b>Children in care</b>	Children looked after by a local authority. The local authority takes on the responsibility for the children as if it was a parent.
<b>Child Support Agency</b>	Part of the Department of Social Security. It supervises the assessment and payment of maintenance for children.
<b>Child Support Maintenance</b>	The amount of maintenance the parent not living with their child must pay.
<b>Chose</b>	An item of property (anything which can be owned).
<b>Chose in action</b>	A right such as a patent, or a right to recover a debt. A chose in action does not physically exist. For example, you cannot touch patents or rights because they have no physical existence.
<b>Chose in possession</b>	An object which physically exists, such as furniture.
<b>Circuit</b>	Any of the six legal regions into which the United Kingdom is divided up. Each circuit has its own system to administer the courts within the circuit.
<b>Circuit judge</b>	A judge who presides over (is in charge of) cases in the Crown Court and county courts.
<b>Circumstantial Evidence</b>	Evidence which suggests a fact but does not prove the fact is true.
<b>Citation</b>	A summons to appear in court; quoting from a completed case to support an argument; or a notice sent out by someone wanting grant of probate or letters of administration, asking people to come forward if they object to it.
<b>Citizen's arrest</b>	An arrest by someone who is not a police officer. The offence must be being committed or have already been committed when the arrest is done.
<b>Civil court</b>	A court which does not hear criminal cases. It deals with people's rights such as collection of debts.
<b>Claim</b>	to apply for a right; to demand a remedy; or an application for something such as a right.

## Glossário

<b>Claimant</b>	The person making a claim.
<b>Clause</b>	A section in a contract.
<b>Clearing bank</b>	One of several major banks which work together to exchange and pay for cheques which their customers have written.
<b>Clerk to the Justices</b>	The clerk or one of his staff will sit in court with the justices in order to advise them, but should not retire with them when they consider their verdict.
<b>Close company</b>	Subject to some exceptions, a close company is a company which is controlled by five or fewer participators, or which is controlled by its directors, or more than half of the assets of which would be distributed to five or fewer participators, or to participators who are directors, in the event of its winding up.
<b>Closing order</b>	An order prohibiting the use of a house because the house is not fit for humans to live in.
<b>Codicil</b>	An object which physically exists, such as furniture.
<b>Circuit</b>	Extra pages to change a valid will which needs a minor alteration. The codicil must be signed and witnessed and then be attached to the will.
<b>Codifying statute</b>	A codifying statute is a law that tries to explain all the rules on a particular topic, including previous court decisions and laws made by the government. When a codifying statute is made, it is assumed that it replaces any previous court decisions.
<b>Coercion</b>	Coercion involves making someone do something they would not normally do by instilling fear or using pressure, which can be physical, emotional, or psychological. In criminal law, coercion can be a defense if someone commits a crime under duress. In contract law, if a party is coerced into an agreement, the contract may be deemed voidable.
<b>Collateral</b>	Extra security for a debt. If there is a main security for a debt, such as a house being security for a mortgage, any extra security supplied is called collateral.
<b>Commissioner for oaths</b>	A person who is authorised to witness the signing of important legal documents, including affidavits and statutory declarations. They are appointed by the Chief Justice and are usually, though not always, a solicitor.

## Glossário

<b>Committal for sentence</b>	A committal for sentence happens when magistrates have found someone guilty of a crime but they think their sentencing powers are not enough. The magistrates transfer the case to the Crown Court where a higher sentence can be imposed.
<b>Committal for trial</b>	When magistrates look at the evidence in a case and then send the case to be heard in the Crown Court.
<b>Committal order</b>	An order used to send someone to prison for contempt of court.
<b>Committal proceedings</b>	A hearing where magistrates work out if there is enough evidence of a serious crime to justify a trial by jury.
<b>Committee of Inspection</b>	A committee of inspection is a group of people who represent the interests of creditors of a company that can no longer pay its debts and is being wound up by liquidation.
<b>Common assault</b>	When someone threatens another person with physical harm, even if they are not touched. This is a less serious type of assault (compare with aggravated assault). Threatening someone with a weapon such as a knife or gun is common assault.
<b>Common duty of care</b>	The duty of the occupier of premises or land to take reasonable care of visitors to make sure that they are kept safe.
<b>Common seal</b>	The seal companies use to authenticate (validate) important company documents. The company's name is engraved on the seal. (Also known as corporate seal)
<b>Commorientes</b>	Closely related people who die at the same time, and it is unclear which of them died first. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Community service order</b>	An order to do work in the community without pay. If someone has been convicted of a crime they may be given a community service order as an alternative to being sent to prison.
<b>Companies House</b>	The office which stores company information such as annual accounts, directors' names and addresses and the registered office address. People who are interested in a company can inspect some of the information stored.
<b>Company secretary</b>	A person appointed by the directors of a company who is responsible for making sure that the company complies with the Companies Acts.

## Glossário

<b>Compensation</b>	Money paid to make up for damage or loss caused.
<b>Compensation for loss of office</b>	Lump-sum compensation a company pays to an employee whose contract has been ended.
<b>Compensation order</b>	An order that a convicted person must pay compensation for loss or damage caused by the convicted person.
<b>Completion</b>	The process of performing the necessary legal formalities to conclude a transaction. Sometimes referred to as closing.
<b>Composition with creditors</b>	An arrangement between a debtor and the creditors. The creditors agree to accept a proportion of what is owed to them in full settlement.
<b>Compulsory purchase</b>	Taking land and giving compensation for it. When land is needed for a project, such as a road, local authorities and other public bodies can take the land off the landowner. Compensation has to be paid to the landowner.
<b>Compulsory winding up</b>	The liquidation of a company by order of the court. It usually happens because the company has not been able to pay its bills on time and a creditor has presented to the court a petition for winding up the company.
<b>Concealment</b>	Failure by one side negotiating a contract to disclose (reveal) information which the other side would need to consider when deciding whether or not to go ahead.
<b>Concealment of securities</b>	Hiding or destroying a document such as a will to gain benefit for yourself or cause other people loss of benefit.
<b>Conclusive evidence</b>	Evidence which by law cannot be disputed.
<b>Concurrent sentence</b>	When someone is sentenced for different crimes and The sentences are to be served at the same time.
<b>Condition</b>	A fundamental part of an agreement. The agreement or contract may collapse if a condition is broken.
<b>Conditional agreement</b>	An agreement which depends on a certain thing happening in the future. If the event does not happen the agreement will not start to operate.



## Glossário

<b>Conditional discharge</b>	A court may decide not to punish a criminal immediately for an offence and may conditionally discharge the criminal instead. If the criminal reoffends the court may impose a punishment for the original offence as well as the later ones.
<b>Conditional sale</b>	An agreement by which the seller remains the owner agreement of the goods until all the instalments have been paid and all other conditions have been met.
<b>Condition precedent</b>	Something which must happen before a contract starts.
<b>Condition subsequent</b>	Something which may happen in the future and, if it does, will affect a contract.
<b>Confiscation order</b>	If someone has been convicted of a crime the court may order the person convicted to pay the court a sum of money. This is called a confiscation order.
<b>Consecutive sentence</b>	When someone is sentenced for different crimes and the sentences have to be served one after another.
<b>Consent</b>	To agree to something. A contract would not be valid unless all the parties consented to it.
<b>Consideration</b>	The price you pay for something
<b>Consignee</b>	The person goods have been sent to.
<b>Consignor</b>	The person who sent the goods.
<b>Consistory Court</b>	A type of court in England that has jurisdiction over the clergy and church property, including cemeteries, and other ecclesiastical matters. It is presided over by the bishop's chancellor or the chancellor's commissary.
<b>Conspiracy</b>	an agreement by two or more people to commit a crime; or some people acting together and harming a third party.
<b>Constructive</b>	Describing something which may not be set out in the law but will nevertheless be considered to exist.
<b>Constructive dismissal</b>	Because the employer has broken fundamental terms of the contract of employment the employee has been forced to resign. The employee can apply for a hearing before an industrial tribunal.

## Glossário

<b>Constructive notice</b>	Presuming something is known. The law sometimes presumes that a person knows something even though they do not.
<b>Consumer credit agreement</b>	An agreement by a creditor, such as a bank, to provide up to £25,000 of credit to a consumer.
<b>Contempt of court</b>	the offence of: disobeying a court order; abusing a judge during a court case; or interfering in the administration of justice.
<b>Contemptuous damages</b>	Tiny damages. Sometimes, even though a case has been won, the court may consider that it should not have been brought to court and will only award tiny damages.
<b>Contingency fee</b>	The claimant's lawyer gets paid the fee only if the case is won by the claimant. The fee is often a proportion of the damages won.
<b>Contingent legacy</b>	A gift in a will which will only be made if certain conditions are met.
<b>Contract</b>	An agreement between two or more people (or groups) to do (or not to do) something. The agreement can be enforced by law.
<b>Contract for services</b>	A contract under which materials and services are provided by a contractor.
<b>Contract of exchange</b>	A contract to exchange goods without money being involved (barter).
<b>Contract of service</b>	An agreement between a service provider and a customer, where the provider agrees to deliver specific services, such as consulting or catering. It can cover one-off or ongoing arrangements and typically includes provisions on service specifications, pricing, performance, data protection, and liability.
<b>Contributory negligence</b>	Your own carelessness contributing to the damage done to you or your property. When someone suffers damage or injury their claim for damages may be limited if they have contributed to the harm done through their own carelessness.
<b>Conversion</b>	Exchanging one sort of property for another (such as exchanging money for goods); or acting unlawfully to deprive someone of their ownership of goods.
<b>Convey</b>	To transfer the ownership of something.



# Glossário

<b>Conveyance</b>	A legal term that refers to the legal transfer of property between one entity to another.
<b>Conveyancing</b>	The transfer of legal title of real property from one person to another, or the granting of an encumbrance such as a mortgage or a lien.
<b>Conviction</b>	Being found guilty of a criminal offence.
<b>Copyright</b>	A legal right which stops things being copied without permission. If you have the copyright over something (such as a book or music), nobody can copy it or reproduce it without your permission.
<b>Coroner</b>	A person who investigates the cause of death when a person has suffered a sudden, violent or suspicious death.
<b>Corporate body (or corporation)</b>	A group of people acting together, such as a club. The group has a separate legal identity from the individual members' identities. A company is another example of a corporate body.
<b>Corporation tax</b>	A tax which companies pay on their profits.
<b>Corpus</b>	The name for a body (usually dead). (This word is Latin.)
<b>Corpus delicti</b>	the body of a person who has been killed unlawfully; or the facts which make up an offence.(This phrase is Latin.)
<b>Counsel</b>	A barrister or group of barristers.
<b>Counterclaim</b>	Making a claim in court against someone who has already made a claim in court against you.
<b>Counterfeit</b>	Something that is forged or copied with the intention of deceiving.
<b>Counterpart</b>	An exact copy of a document.
<b>County Court</b>	A court which deals with civil cases such as disputes over unpaid debts and negligence claims. It does not deal with criminal cases.
<b>County court judge</b>	A judge who presides over (is in charge of) cases in the county courts.

## Glossário

<b>Coupon</b>	A dated piece of paper attached to a bond. The coupon has to be surrendered (given back) to get the interest or dividend on the bond.
<b>Court of Appeal</b>	A court which hears appeals against the decisions of other courts.
<b>Court of Protection</b>	A court which administers (manages) the assets and affairs of people who cannot look after themselves, such as people who are mentally ill.
<b>Covenant</b>	A contract or legally binding promise. It's often used in property law or contracts.
<b>Creditor</b>	A person you owe money to.
<b>Creditors voluntary winding up</b>	If a company is insolvent and cannot pay its debts, its members can pass a special resolution to wind up (liquidate) the company. This process is called a creditors' voluntary winding up.
<b>Criminal damage</b>	The criminal offence of causing damage to someone else's property either recklessly or intentionally.
<b>Criminal responsibility</b>	Criminal responsibility is the age at which a person is considered legally capable of committing a criminal offence.
<b>Cross-examine</b>	To question a witness for the other side in a case.
<b>Crown Court</b>	The court where people indicted of criminal offences are tried. The Crown Court deals with more serious criminal cases, including those requiring jury trials.
<b>Culpa</b>	Blameworthiness or a fault. (This word is Latin.)
<b>Cum dividend</b>	With dividend. If a share is sold cum dividend, the buyer will receive the dividend that was declared just before the share was bought.
<b>Cumulative preference shares</b>	Shares which carry forward unpaid dividends. If dividends on these shares have not been paid in previous years the arrears must be paid before a dividend can be paid on the ordinary shares.

## Glossário

### Curfew

A court ordering someone to stay at a named place at stated times of the day. It's often used as a sentencing measure in criminal cases.

### Customs duties

Duties are taxes imposed by governments which are charged on imports of goods and on some exports.

## D

### Damages

The name for money awarded by a court as compensation.

### Dangerous driving

A standard of driving which falls far below that of a careful, competent driver and it would be obvious to such a driver that it was dangerous to drive that way. A driver found guilty of dangerous driving would be disqualified from driving by the court.

### Debenture

A document issued by a company which acknowledges that some or all of the company's assets are security for a debt (usually to a bank). It is also the name for certain long-term loans to companies.

### Debt

Money owed.

### Debtor

Someone who owes you money.

### Debt securities

Debts which can be bought and sold, such as debentures.

### Deceit

When one person intentionally misleads another with false statements or representations, causing the other person to suffer harm or damage.

### Decree

A formal and authoritative order issued by a court.

### Decree absolute

The final court order which ends a marriage.

### Decree nisi

A provisional court order which orders that a marriage should be dissolved. It must be finalized by a decree absolute for the divorce to be complete.

### Deed

A legal document which commits the person signing it to something. It often requires a formal execution, such as signing in the presence of a witness.

## Glossário

<b>Deed of arrangement</b>	A formal agreement made between a debtor and creditors to repay debts in a structured manner, aiming to avoid bankruptcy and ensure creditors receive a portion of the owed money.
<b>De facto</b>	In fact or in reality. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Defamation</b>	Making a statement, either orally or in writing, which damages someone's reputation.
<b>Default</b>	Failing to do something which had been agreed to. It often refers to failing to meet obligations or payments, especially in legal and financial contexts.
<b>Defence</b>	In criminal cases, the defence refers to the legal team representing the accused, while in civil cases, it can also refer to a written statement by the defendant outlining their case.
<b>Defendant</b>	A person defending a court action which has been taken against them.
<b>De jure</b>	Rightfully. (This term is Latin.)
<b>De minimis non curat lex</b>	The law will not take account of trifling matters. (This phrase is Latin.)
<b>Dependant</b>	Someone who depends on someone else for financial support.
<b>Deponent</b>	A person who swears on oath that a statement is correct.
<b>Deposition</b>	A statement, by a witness, made under oath.
<b>Depreciation</b>	The drop in value of an asset due to wear and tear, age and obsolescence (going out of date), as recorded in an organisation's financial records.
<b>Derogation</b>	Damaging someone's rights or entitlements.
<b>Determination</b>	The legal termination of various types of agreements, such as contracts.
<b>Devise</b>	To leave land in a will.
<b>Devisee</b>	The person who is left freehold property or land in a will.

## Glossário

<b>Diminished responsibility</b>	A defence sometimes used for someone charged with murder, that they suffered lowered powers of reasoning and judgement because of their unusual state of mind. If their defence succeeds they will be convicted of manslaughter.
<b>Diocese</b>	The area covered by a bishop's authority.
<b>Diplomatic immunity</b>	Immunity given to certain members of foreign embassies, such as ambassadors, for crimes they may have committed. It protects officials from legal prosecution under host country laws.
<b>Direction/directing</b>	Judges must give juries instructions on points of law. This is called directing the jury. Directions guide the jury on how to apply the law to the facts of the case.
<b>Director</b>	A person appointed to help manage a company's affairs who has legal duties and responsibilities under corporate law.
<b>Disbursement</b>	A payment made by a professional person, such as a solicitor or accountant, on behalf of a client. The money is claimed back by including it on the bill for professional services which is sent to the client.
<b>Discharge</b>	release from: a commitment such as a debt; a contract because it has finished or the parties agree to end it; or a punishment for a crime.
<b>Disclaim/disclaimer</b>	To give up a claim or a right or refuse to take over an onerous (having more obligations than advantages) contract. A disclaimer can also be a formal notice that limits responsibility or liability.
<b>Discovery</b>	One party in a civil case revealing to the other party the documents relevant to the case under the first party's control and allowing them to be inspected. It's part of the pre-trial process in litigation.
<b>Discretionary trust</b>	A trust in which the trustees can decide who will benefit from the trust and how much they will get.
<b>Disposal (dispose of)</b>	Selling, transferring or giving away something. It can refer to both tangible and intangible assets.

## Glossário

<b>Distrain/distress</b>	To seize goods as security for an unpaid debt. This action is often taken without court involvement in certain jurisdictions.
<b>Divorce</b>	The legal end to a marriage.
<b>Divorce petition</b>	An application for the legal ending of a marriage.
<b>Domicile</b>	The country where your permanent home is, even if you are living somewhere else for now.
<b>Domiciled</b>	Permanently based in a country.
<b>Domicile of choice</b>	The country in which you make your home, intending it to be permanent.
<b>Domicile of origin</b>	The domicile a newborn child has. This is usually its father's domicile or, if the father is dead, its mother's.
<b>Drawee</b>	The organisation which will pay a bill of exchange (such as a cheque). In the case of a cheque, this is the bank that the cheque is drawn on.
<b>Drawer</b>	The person or organisation that has written a bill of exchange, such as a person who has written a cheque.
<b>Duress</b>	Threatening or pressurizing someone to do something, which can make a contract void or be used as a defense in criminal cases.
<b>Duty</b>	A levy charged by the government on certain transactions, such as the purchase of shares, buildings, or imports and exports.

### E

<b>Easement</b>	A right to use someone else's land, such as a right of way.
<b>Enabling legislation</b>	Legislation which authorises government ministers or bodies to create detailed rules to accomplish general principles set out in the legislation. For example it may allow a minister to create rules or laws for a particular body, such as the police, to follow.
<b>Endorsement</b>	A change to the original terms of a contract, such as an insurance policy.

## Glossário

<b>Endowment policy</b>	A type of insurance policy which will pay out a lump sum on a fixed date in the future, or when you die if this happens earlier.
<b>Enduring power of attorney</b>	A power of attorney which takes effect in the future. If a person is capable of dealing with their own affairs at present, they can sign an enduring power of attorney. It will only come into effect when they are no longer capable of looking after their own affairs. It gives authority to the person appointed to act for the person who signed the power of attorney.
<b>Engrossment</b>	Preparing the final version of a legal document ready for it to be executed (made valid such as with a signature).
<b>Equitable mortgage</b>	A mortgage where the purchaser owns the property, but the lender holds some form of security, such as title deeds, until the debt is repaid.
<b>Escrow</b>	A deed which has been supplied but cannot become effective until a future date, or until a particular event happens.
<b>Estate</b>	All a person owns, including assets and liabilities, at the date of their death; or the right to use land for a period of time.
<b>Estimate</b>	An approximate offer to do stated work for a set price, which may be subject to change.
<b>Estoppel</b>	A rule of law that a person cannot deny something they previously said, if someone else acted on what was said and their position was changed, possibly for the worse, as a result.
<b>Et seq</b>	"And in the following pages." (This phrase is abbreviated from the Latin 'et sequentes'.)
<b>Exemplary damages</b>	Damages given as a punishment for the defendant to deter similar behavior.
<b>Ex gratia</b>	Describing something done or given as a favour rather than a legal obligation. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Ex parte</b>	"Legal proceedings done by one side only in a case, without notifying the other party. (This term is Latin. Since April 1999, it is often replaced with 'without notice'.)"



## Glossário

<b>Expert witness</b>	An expert in a particular field who is called to give an opinion in a court case.
<b>Ex post facto</b>	Describing a law which is retrospective (it affects past acts as well as future ones). (This term is Latin.)
<b>Extradition</b>	The legal process of handing over a criminal to the country where the crime was committed, usually under a treaty or agreement.
<b>Extraordinary general meeting</b>	A general meeting of the members of a company which is not the annual general meeting.
<b>Extraordinary resolution</b>	A resolution for consideration by the members of a company at a general meeting, typically requiring a higher majority vote than an ordinary resolution.
<b>Ex works</b>	Available from the factory. When something is sold ex works the buyer can collect it from the place it was manufactured or from some other place agreed by the buyer and seller.

## F

<b>Factor</b>	Someone who buys or sells for a commission; or an organization that provides finance to a business by advancing money based on the value of its invoices.
<b>False imprisonment</b>	Wrongfully keeping someone in custody or unlawfully restraining their freedom of movement.
<b>False pretence</b>	Misleading someone by deliberately making a false statement, with the intent to deceive for personal gain.
<b>False representation</b>	Lying in a statement to persuade someone to enter a contract.
<b>Family Division</b>	The part of the High Court dealing with marriage breakdowns and probate.
<b>Felony</b>	The former term used for serious crimes such as rape or murder. It is still in use in the USA.
<b>Feme covert</b>	A woman who is married.
<b>Feme sole</b>	A woman who is not married or no longer married.



# Glossário

<b>Feu</b>	A perpetual lease, typically in Scotland.
<b>Feu duty</b>	A yearly charge on a feu (which only applies in Scotland).
<b>Fiduciary</b>	In a position of trust. This includes people such as trustees looking after trust assets for the beneficiaries and company directors running a company for the shareholders' benefit.
<b>Final judgement</b>	The court's final decision in a civil case.
<b>Fitness to plead</b>	Whether the person charged is capable of making an informed decision. If, due to mental illness or incapacity, they are unable to understand the proceedings, they may be deemed unfit to plead.
<b>Fixed charge</b>	A charge which provides security for money lent. The charge is over a specific property.
<b>Floating charge</b>	A charge used to provide security for money lent to a company. The charge is over the company's liquid assets (such as stocks and debtors) but it is only triggered by an event such as liquidation.
<b>Forbearance</b>	When one party to an agreement does not pursue rights under the agreement even though the other party has not kept to its terms. An example would be someone not suing to recover an overdue debt. It is often a temporary delay or withholding of action.
<b>Force majeure</b>	A French expression used to define an uncontrollable event, such as a natural disaster, which prevents duties under an agreement from being carried out.
<b>Foreclosure</b>	Repossessing property. If a mortgagor (the borrower) has failed to keep up the repayments on a mortgage, the mortgagee (the lender) may apply to the High Court for an order that the debt be repaid by a particular date. If the debt is not repaid the property will be repossessed. This procedure is called foreclosure.
<b>Forfeiture</b>	The loss of possession of a property because the tenancy conditions have not been met by the tenant.
<b>Fostering</b>	Looking after other people's children. Sometimes children are looked after by people who are not their parents (natural or adopted). It usually happens because the parents cannot look after the children properly because of changed circumstances such as illness.

## Glossário

<b>Fraud</b>	Lying or deceiving to make a profit or gain an advantage, or to cause someone else to make a loss or suffer a disadvantage.
<b>Fraudulent conveyance</b>	Ownership of land being transferred without consideration and with the intention of defrauding someone.
<b>Fraudulent preference</b>	Someone who is insolvent paying one of their creditors while knowing there is not enough money to pay the others.
<b>Fraudulent trading</b>	Running a business with the intention of defrauding its creditors or other people.
<b>Freehold</b>	Describing land that only the owner has any rights over, with ownership for an indefinite period.
<b>Free of encumbrances</b>	No one else having any rights over something. When property is owned by someone and nobody else has any rights over it, it is owned free of encumbrances.
<b>Frustration</b>	The stopping of a contract when an unforeseen event makes it impossible to carry out, thereby voiding the contract.
<b>Futures contract</b>	A binding contract to buy or sell something on a date in the future at a fixed price.

### G

<b>Garnishee order</b>	A court order to a third party who owes money to a judgement debtor to pay the money to the judgement creditor.
<b>General damages</b>	Damages awarded by a court to compensate for non-quantifiable losses, such as pain and suffering, without needing specific proof of harm.
<b>General meeting</b>	A meeting of the members of a company to make decisions about the company.
<b>Grant</b>	Proof issued by the Probate Registry that you are entitled to deal with a deceased person's estate, such as a grant of probate or letters of administration.
<b>Grant of probate</b>	A certificate proving that the executors of a will are entitled to deal with the estate. When a person dies the executors fill in various forms for the Probate Registry. The forms are then sent to the registry together with the will and the death certificate. A registrar examines all the documents and, once satisfied with everything, issues the grant of probate.

## Glossário

<b>Grievous bodily harm</b>	Intentionally causing serious physical harm to someone. This is more serious than actual bodily harm.
<b>Guarantee</b>	A promise by a person (the guarantor) to repay a debt owed by a second person if the second person fails to repay it. For example, a guarantee is sometimes required by a bank before it will lend money to a customer.
<b>Guarantee company</b>	A company whose members only have to pay the amount they have agreed to contribute, if the company has to be wound up. They do not have to pay in extra money if there is not enough to pay all the company's debts.
<b>Guarantor</b>	A person or organisation that promises to pay a debt owed by a second person, if the second person fails to repay it.
<b>Guardian</b>	A person appointed formally to look after the interests of a child, or of someone who is not capable of looking after their own affairs.
<b>Guilty</b>	A court's verdict that the person charged with a crime committed it.

## H

<b>Habeas corpus</b>	A writ which can be applied for to order a person's release if they have been imprisoned unlawfully.
<b>Harassment of debtors</b>	The illegal act of attempting to collect a debt by threatening, or habitually acting in a way that humiliates or distresses, a debtor.
<b>Harassment of occupiers</b>	The illegal act by a landlord of using, or threatening to use, violence, or interfering with the tenant's enjoyment of the property, in an attempt to repossess the property.
<b>Hearsay evidence</b>	Evidence given in court of something said to the witness by another person.
<b>Hereditament</b>	Any property which is capable of being inherited.
<b>High Court (of Justice)</b>	part of the Supreme Court. It is split into three divisions called: Queen's Bench Division; Chancery Division; and Family Division.
<b>Hire</b>	To pay to borrow something for a period.

## Glossário

<b>Hire purchase</b>	A form of credit which allows the purchaser to have possession of the goods shown in the hire purchase agreement. Ownership passes to the purchaser when the fee and all the instalments have been paid.
<b>HM Customs and Excise</b>	A government department responsible for administering (managing) value added tax, customs duties and excise duties.
<b>HM Land Registry</b>	A registry with offices in towns and cities throughout the UK which keep records of registered land.
<b>Holding company</b>	A company which controls another company, usually by owning more than half of its shares.
<b>Hostile witness</b>	A witness who: refuses to testify in support of the people who called them; or testifies in a way which differs from their previous statement.
<b>House of Lords</b>	The highest court in the UK.
<b>Housing associations</b>	Organisations run to provide housing for people. They are not intended to make a profit.
<b>Hypothecation</b>	A person giving a bank authority to sell goods which have been pledged to the bank as security for a loan.

## I

<b>Indict</b>	Using legal means, to officially accuse someone of committing an offence.
<b>Indictable offence</b>	An offence which can be tried by jury in the Crown Court.
<b>Indictment</b>	A document setting out the details of the offence a defendant is accused of.
<b>Injunction</b>	An injunction is an order by a court requiring: someone to do something; or not to do something.
<b>Intangible property</b>	Property which does not physically exist, such as a right or a patent.
<b>Interest</b>	A right, title, claim, or share in property.

## Glossário

<b>Interlocutory judgement</b>	A provisional judgement. (Since April 1999, this had been replaced with the phrase 'Judgment for an amount and costs to be decided by the court').
<b>Interlocutory proceedings</b>	The first things to be done before a civil case comes to trial. They include pleading (preparing the formal written statement) and discovery (stating the documents, under one party's control, which are relevant to the case and making them available to the other party) so that there are no surprises when the trial starts.
<b>Interrogatories</b>	In a civil case, formal questions from one side which the other side must answer under oath.
<b>Intestacy/intestate</b>	When someone dies without leaving a will. Their estate is divided up between their relatives following the rules set by law.
<b>Intimidation</b>	Threatening or frightening someone into doing something.
<b>Issue</b>	The legal word for: children; or the matter to be decided by a court action.
<b>Issued share capital</b>	Share capital which has been allocated to shareholders who have subscribed for (asked for) shares.

## J

<b>Joint and several liability</b>	Two or more people responsible for repaying a debt. They are each responsible individually to repay all the debt as well as being responsible as a group.
<b>Joint lives policy</b>	A life assurance policy on more than one person's life. The policy pays out on the first death.
<b>Joint tenancy</b>	Two or more people having identical shares in land.
<b>Joint will</b>	A single will which two or more people make to cover all their estates. Probate has to be obtained on each death.
<b>Joyriding</b>	Taking a vehicle without permission and using or allowing it to be used without authority.
<b>Judge</b>	A person whose job is to adjudicate in court cases. The Crown and the Prime Minister appoint judges. Most are barristers but some are solicitors.

## Glossário

<b>Judge Advocate</b>	A lawyer who advises a military court which is trying an offence.
<b>Judge Advocate General</b>	A lawyer who is in charge of military justice in the British Army and the Royal Air Force.
<b>Judge Advocate General's Department</b>	A government department which appoints barristers to advise army and air force courts.
<b>Judge Advocate of the Fleet</b>	A lawyer who is in charge of military justice in the British Navy.
<b>(Office of the) Judge Advocate of the Fleet</b>	A government department which appoints barristers to advise naval courts.
<b>Judge in chambers</b>	Describes a hearing in front of a judge which is not held in court.
<b>Judgement</b>	A decision by a court.
<b>Judgement creditor</b>	A person who is owed money and who has been to court and obtained a judgement for the money owed.
<b>Judgement debtor</b>	A person who owes the money a court judgement says is owed.
<b>Judgement in default</b>	Getting a judgement against you because you failed to do something. If a civil case has gone to court but the defendant does not do something required by the court (such as turn up), judgement for the claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999) may be given.
<b>Judgement summons</b>	A summons to appear in court to disclose (reveal) income and assets under oath because a judgement debtor has failed to pay the judgement debt.
<b>Judicial discretion</b>	A degree of flexibility about the way courts do things.
<b>Judicial immunity</b>	Immunity that a judge normally has from being sued for damages when acting as a judge.
<b>Judicial precedent</b>	Lower courts have to follow the decisions of higher courts. This is called judicial precedent, binding precedent or precedent.



## Glossário

<b>Judicial separation</b>	A court order that two married people should live apart.
<b>Junior barrister</b>	A barrister who is not a Queen's Counsel.
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	Is: the territory in which a court can operate; the power it has to deal with particular cases; or the power it has to issue orders.
<b>Juror</b>	One of the people who are acting as a jury.
<b>Jury</b>	A group of people (usually 12) who review all the evidence in a court case and then come to a verdict.
<b>Jury service</b>	Serving on a jury. Most people between the ages of 18 and 70 can be required to serve on a jury. Just and equitable winding up a winding up ordered because fairness cannot be achieved for all the members of a company.
<b>Justice of the Peace (JP)</b>	A person appointed by the Crown to act as a magistrate.
<b>Justification</b>	Claiming that a defamatory statement is true. In a defamation case a defendant may admit that the claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999)'s allegations are true but plead that the statement which defamed was true.
<b>Justifying bail</b>	Proving to the court that the person giving the surety has the assets to pay the bail.
<b>Juvenile offender</b>	A person aged between 10 and 17 who has committed a criminal offence.

## K

<b>Kerb crawling</b>	The offence committed in a street or public place by a man in a motor vehicle (or near a vehicle he has just got out of) who approaches a woman for sexual services in return for money.
<b>Kidnap</b>	To take someone away by force against their will.
<b>Knock for knock</b>	An agreement between insurance companies that they will pay for their own policyholders' losses regardless of who was to blame.



# Glossário

## Know-how

The expertise in an organisation which may be protected by a patent.

## L

### Land

Includes: the buildings built on the land; the subsoil; the airspace above the land necessary for ordinary use of the land; and property fixed to the land.

### Lawsuit

A claim made in a court of law.

### Leading question

A question which: suggests the answer to be given; or assumes things to be true which in fact are disputed.

### Lease

A contract between the owner of a property and a tenant, giving the tenant sole use of the property for an agreed time.

### Leasehold

Property held by a tenant with a lease.

### Legacy

A gift left to someone in a will, but not including land.

### Legal action

Using the law to make a claim.

### Legal aid scheme

A scheme for paying legal costs out of public funds for people who cannot afford to pay for them.

### Legal capacity

Someone's ability to enter into a legal agreement. For example, a minor would not be able to buy something on credit.

### Legatee

The person who receives a legacy.

### Lessee

The person a property has been leased to.

### Lessor

The person who lets a property by lease.

### Letter of credit

A letter one bank sends to a second bank asking them to pay money to a named person.

### Letters of administration

An authority the courts give to a person to deal with a dead person's estate. It is given when someone dies intestate.

### Liabilities

The debts that a person or organisation owes.

### Liability

A debt or obligation.

### Libel

A false statement made in writing or in some other permanent record (such as a film).

# Glossário

<b>Licence</b>	An authority to do something.
<b>Licensed conveyancer</b>	A person authorised to do conveyancing (but not including solicitors).
<b>Licensee</b>	The holder of a licence to do something.
<b>Lease</b>	A contract between the owner of a property and a tenant, giving the tenant sole use of the property for an agreed time.
<b>Lien</b>	The right to keep possession of something owned by someone who owes a debt, until the debt has been settled.
<b>Life assurance policy (or life insurance policy)</b>	A contract between the policyholder and the insurance company. The insurance company pays out if the policyholder dies.
<b>Life assured</b>	The person whose life is assured by a life assurance policy.
<b>Life imprisonment</b>	A sentence given to a criminal to be imprisoned for the rest of their life (though the Home Secretary may release them early on parole).
<b>Life interest</b>	An interest which will pass to someone else when the present owner dies.
<b>Life tenant</b>	Someone entitled to use property for the rest of their life.
<b>Limited company</b>	A company which limits how much its members will have to pay if the company is wound up. The members of most limited companies will only have to pay any money unpaid on their shares. If a company limited by guarantee is wound up, the money its members have to pay is limited to the amount shown in the memorandum of association.
<b>Liquidated damages</b>	Damages agreed beforehand by the parties to a contract in case one of them should later break the terms of the contract.
<b>Liquidation</b>	The process of winding up a company by disposing of its assets, paying its creditors in a strict order of priority and distributing any money left among the members.
<b>Liquidator</b>	The person appointed to wind up a company.
<b>Litigant</b>	A person involved in a lawsuit.

# Glossário

<b>Litigation</b>	Taking legal action through the courts.
<b>Loan capital</b>	Money borrowed by an organisation.
<b>Loan creditor</b>	A person or organisation which has lent money to an organisation.

## M

<b>Magistrate</b>	A Justice of the Peace who presides over (is in charge of) minor cases heard in the magistrates' court.
<b>Magistrates' court</b>	The lowest court. The things it deals with include minor criminal cases, most criminal cases involving 10- to 17-year-olds, issuing alcoholic drink licences and hearing child welfare cases.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Money paid (and things paid for) to support a partner (husband or wife) and children when a marriage has failed.
<b>Majority</b>	The age when a person gains full legal rights and responsibilities. In the UK it is when a person becomes 18 years old.
<b>Male issue</b>	Direct male descendants (sons only) of men.
<b>Malfeasance</b>	An unlawful act. It usually refers to wrongful or illegal actions taken by public officials.
<b>Malice</b>	Intending to do something which is against the law.
<b>Malice aforethought</b>	Planning to kill someone or intending to do something which is likely to kill.
<b>Malicious falsehood</b>	A written or spoken lie told to harm somebody and which does do harm.
<b>Malicious prosecution</b>	A prosecution which is brought unreasonably.
<b>Mandate</b>	An authority to act given by one party to another. An example is when a bank's customer writes instructions on the mandate for the bank to follow when operating the customer's account.
<b>Manslaughter</b>	Killing someone illegally but by accident.

## Glossário

<b>Market overt</b>	A lawful market in which, as long as someone buying goods is not aware that they do not belong to the seller, the buyer will get a good title to the goods.
<b>Martial law</b>	Government of a country by the military, which usually occurs during emergencies or times of war.
<b>Master of the Rolls</b>	The person in charge of: the Civil Division of the Appeal Court; and admitting solicitors to the roll of solicitors in practice.
<b>Material facts</b>	Facts which are a key part of a defence or a claim.
<b>Matricide</b>	The killing of a mother by her son or daughter.
<b>Matrimonial causes</b>	The court proceedings: to divorce people; to separate a married couple; or to dissolve a marriage.
<b>Matrimonial home</b>	The house that a husband and wife live in as a married couple.
<b>Mediation</b>	Help from an independent person (a mediator) to solve differences between a husband and wife whose marriage has broken down. The mediator helps them to agree what should be done about their children, money and so on.
<b>Memorandum and articles of association</b>	The memorandum gives details of a company's name, objects (purposes) and share capital. It also sets out the limits of the shareholders' liability if the company has to be wound up. The articles set out the members' rights and the directors' powers.
<b>Mens rea</b>	The intent to commit a crime and also the knowledge that an act is wrong. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Mercantile law</b>	The branch of the law dealing with commerce.
<b>Merchantable quality</b>	The assumption in the law that goods sold by a business will be fit for their purpose.
<b>Mesne profits</b>	Income lost by a landlord because the property is occupied without the landlord's permission. An example would be a tenant failing to leave the property when the tenancy finished. It is also the profits lost by a landowner when wrongly deprived of the use of his or her land.
<b>Messuage</b>	A house together with its land and outbuildings.

# Glossário

<b>Minor</b>	Someone who has not yet reached the age when they get full legal rights and responsibilities. In the UK this is a person under 18 years old.
<b>Minority</b>	Being under the age of full legal rights and responsibilities.
<b>Minutes</b>	A record of the meetings held by members and directors of companies.
<b>Misadventure</b>	An unexpected accident which happens while lawfully doing something.
<b>Miscarriage of justice</b>	The court system failing to give justice to someone.
<b>Misconduct</b>	Deliberately doing something which is against the law or which is wrong.
<b>Misdirection</b>	A judge instructing a jury wrongly.
<b>Misfeasance</b>	When: something is done badly even though it is still legal; or a company officer does something which is a breach of trust or a breach of duty.
<b>Misrepresentation</b>	A lie told to persuade someone to enter into a contract.
<b>Mistrial</b>	A trial that has been made invalid.
<b>Mitigation</b>	Putting facts to a judge, after someone has been found guilty, to justify a lower sentence.
<b>Molest/ Molestation</b>	Behaviour by a person which annoys or greatly troubles their children or spouse. The behaviour can include violence, verbal threats and written threats.
<b>Money laundering</b>	Making money from crime and then passing it through a business to make it appear legitimate.
<b>Moratorium</b>	An agreement not to take action to recover a debt for an agreed period of time.
<b>Mortgage</b>	Using property as security for a debt. It is also the name for the contract which is signed by the borrower and lender when money is lent using property as security for a loan.
<b>Mortgagee</b>	The lender of the money which is secured by a mortgage.

## Glossário

<b>Mortgagor</b>	The person who borrows the money to buy a property. The lending is secured with a mortgage of the property.
<b>Motive</b>	A reason for a person doing something.
<b>Muniments</b>	Documents that serve as evidence of ownership or rights to property.

### N

<b>Naked trust</b>	Trust which holds property for a person until they ask the trustee to return it.
<b>Naturalisation</b>	Giving a citizen of one country citizenship of another.
<b>Negligence</b>	Failure to exercise the care that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in similar circumstances, resulting in harm or damage.
<b>Negligent</b>	Lacking proper care to do a duty properly.
<b>Negotiable instrument</b>	A signed document that guarantees the payment of a specific amount of money and can be transferred by endorsement or delivery.
<b>Next of kin</b>	A person's closest blood relatives.
<b>Nondisclosure</b>	Failure to disclose a fact, whether intentional or unintentional, that would influence a party's decision in a contract.
<b>Non-exclusive licence</b>	An agreement giving someone the right to use something but which does not prevent other people being given similar agreements.
<b>Notary</b>	A person (usually a solicitor) who is authorised to certify documents, take affidavits and swear oaths.
<b>Not guilty</b>	A court's decision that a person did not commit the crime they were charged with.
<b>Notice</b>	A warning of something which is about to happen.
<b>Notice to quit</b>	A notice to end a tenancy on a stated date. It is usually sent by the landlord to the tenant although the tenant can also send one to the landlord.

## Glossário

<b>Not negotiable</b>	Cannot be transferred. If a bill of exchange is marked not negotiable it cannot be transferred to someone else.
<b>Novation</b>	Replacing an existing agreement with a new one.
<b>Nuisance</b>	Doing something that harms other people's rights.
<b>O</b>	
<b>Oath</b>	Swearing the truth of a statement.
<b>Objects clause</b>	A clause which forms part of a company's memorandum of association It sets out the purposes the company was formed for.
<b>Obligation</b>	A legal duty to do something.
<b>Obligee</b>	Someone who, under a contract, receives money or has something done.
<b>Obligor</b>	Someone who is bound by a contract to pay money or do something.
<b>Obstruction</b>	A motoring offence involving: leaving a vehicle or other obstruction in a road; or driving in a way which inconveniences other road users.
<b>Occupation</b>	The act of taking possession or control of land or property, usually with legal authority.
<b>Occupational pension scheme</b>	A pension scheme organised by an employer for its employees.
<b>Occupier</b>	The person who is in control of a piece of land, such as a tenant.
<b>Offensive weapon</b>	An object that is intended to physically injure someone.
<b>Offer</b>	A promise to do something, or not to do something. If the promise is accepted it becomes legally binding.
<b>Offeree</b>	The person who receives the legally binding offer.
<b>Offeror</b>	The person who makes the legally binding offer.



## Glossário

<b>Official receiver</b>	The person appointed to act as a receiver in bankruptcies and company winding-up cases. The Department of Trade and Industry appoints official receivers.
<b>Official secret</b>	Information which the Government classifies as confidential. It is a criminal offence to disclose an official secret without permission.
<b>Official Solicitor</b>	An officer of the Supreme Court whose duties include acting for people who cannot act for themselves, such as children or people with mental health problems.
<b>Omission</b>	A failure to do something.
<b>Oppression</b>	The offence of public officials using their official positions to harm or injure people.
<b>Option</b>	A type of contract under which money is paid for a right to buy or sell goods at a fixed price by a particular date in the future.
<b>Order</b>	An instruction by or command of a court.
<b>Order in Council</b>	An order given by the monarch (King or Queen) after taking advice from the members of the Privy Council.
<b>Originating summons</b>	A summons that sets out the questions the court is being asked to settle. When the facts in a case are not disputed, but the interpretation of the law or of the documents needs to be resolved, an originating summons is prepared.
<b>Outlaw</b>	Formerly, a person who was not protected by the law.
<b>Overt act</b>	An act done openly and from which the criminal intention of the act is clear.

### P

<b>Panel</b>	The list of people who have been summoned for jury service.
<b>Pardon</b>	Releasing someone from a court's punishment. The Crown has the right to alter, cancel or reduce the penalties imposed by the courts.
<b>Pari passu</b>	Equally. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Parole</b>	Release from prison early. If someone is given parole they may be returned to prison if they offend again.

# Glossário

<b>Party</b>	The claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999) or defendant in a lawsuit. It is also someone who has taken out a contract or agreement.
<b>Passing off</b>	Pretending that the goods and services offered are those supplied by another business.
<b>Patent</b>	An official right for a specified period of time to be the only person (or organisation) to make or sell something.
<b>Patricide</b>	The killing of a father by his own son or daughter.
<b>Pawn</b>	To pledge goods as security for a loan.
<b>Payee</b>	The person money is being paid to.
<b>Payment into court</b>	Money paid to the court by the defendant for payment to the claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999).
<b>Penalty</b>	Is: a sum of money which has to be paid if the terms of a contract are broken; or a punishment given to someone who commits a crime.
<b>Penalty points</b>	Points given by a court as punishment for driving offences. If enough penalty points have been collected the offenders may have their driving licences taken off them.
<b>Per</b>	Through or by. (This word is Latin.)
<b>Performance</b>	Doing what is required under a contract.
<b>Perjury</b>	Lying to a court after you have been sworn in.
<b>Perpetuity</b>	Forever. The law prevents property being tied up in perpetuity because it could stop owners disposing of it.
<b>Per pro</b>	On behalf of. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Per quod</b>	In accordance with or whereby. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Per se</b>	In itself or by itself. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Personal guarantee</b>	Pledge, by a person to a bank, to repay a debt owed to the bank if the bank's customer fails to pay it.
<b>Personal injury</b>	An injury caused to a person.

# Glossário

<b>Personal property</b>	All property except land.
<b>Personal Representative</b>	A person who is appointed to deal with a dead person's estate. If there is a will, the executors appointed will be the personal representatives. If there is no will, the courts will appoint someone called the administrator.
<b>Personalty</b>	Another word for personal property.
<b>Personation</b>	Pretending to be someone you are not.
<b>Per stirpes</b>	Describes property divided equally between the offspring. If a parent who is a beneficiary under a will dies and the legacy goes to the children in equal shares, the legacy has been divided per stirpes. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Perverting the course of justice</b>	Doing something to interfere with the justice system (such as misleading the court or intimidating witnesses).
<b>Plaintiff</b>	The person who goes to court to make a claim against someone else. (Since April 1999, this term has been replaced with 'Claimant'.)
<b>Plea</b>	The defendant's answer to the accusations.
<b>Plea bargain</b>	When the defendant pleads guilty instead of not guilty in return for a concession by the prosecution (such as dropping another charge).
<b>Plead</b>	Declare to the court whether you are guilty or not guilty.
<b>Pleadings</b>	Statements of the facts prepared by both sides in a civil case. Each side gives the other its pleadings so that they are both aware of what arguments will be used during the trial. (This term was replaced with statement of case' in April 1999).
<b>Pledge</b>	Letting someone take possession of goods but the ownership does not change. It is often done to give security for money owed or to make sure that something is done as promised.
<b>Plenipotentiary</b>	Someone who has been given complete authority to act.
<b>Poaching</b>	Taking game from someone else's land without permission.
<b>Polygamy</b>	Being married to more than one person at once.

# Glossário

<b>Possess</b>	To have property under your control.
<b>Possession</b>	Having something under your control even though you may not own it.
<b>Possessory title</b>	A legal right to property gained through long-term possession, even without proof of ownership.
<b>Post-mortem</b>	The examination of a dead body to establish the cause of death.
<b>Power of appointment</b>	A person giving a second person the power to dispose of the first person's property.
<b>Power of attorney</b>	A document which gives power to the person appointed by it to act for the person who signed the document.
<b>Practising certificate</b>	Certificates showing a person is entitled to practise law. Every year the Law Society issues these certificates to the solicitors who can practise law.
<b>Preamble</b>	An explanation of a proposed law. At the beginning of each Act of Parliament there is an explanation of what the Act is intended to achieve.
<b>Precedent</b>	Lower courts have to follow the decisions of the higher courts. This is called precedent, binding precedent or judicial precedent.
<b>Precept</b>	An order given by an official body or person. It is used: by a county council to tell a body to levy (charge) rates for the benefit of the county Council; by a sheriff to call an election; or to order payment of a sum of money, such as by a writ or a warrant.
<b>Pre-emption</b>	The right to buy property before others are given the chance to buy.
<b>Preference</b>	When insolvent, paying one creditor while leaving other creditors unpaid.
<b>Preference shares</b>	A share entitled to a fixed dividend. Holders of preference shares are treated more favourably than ordinary shareholders. The preference dividend is at a fixed rate and must be paid in full before a dividend can be paid on the ordinary shares. When the company is wound up the preference shares must be fully paid out before the ordinary shareholders can be paid.
<b>Preferential creditor</b>	A creditor who has to be paid in full before unsecured creditors can be paid anything.

# Glossário

<b>Prima facie</b>	On the face of it. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Principal</b>	Is: someone who authorises another person to act for them; the actual person who committed a crime; or an amount of money lent or invested, not including the interest.
<b>Privilege</b>	Special rights which some people have because of the job they do or their special status. For example, diplomats of foreign countries are immune from arrest in the UK.
<b>Privity of contract</b>	Only the parties to a contract can sue each other over breaches of contract.
<b>Privy Council</b>	A body of people appointed by the Crown. Its members include members of the royal family, present and former cabinet ministers and people who hold or have held high office. Its main duties are advising the Queen.
<b>Privy Purse</b>	money given to the Crown for royal household expenses.
<b>Probate</b>	Authority to deal with a dead person's estate. When someone has died and left a will, the executors of the estate apply to the court for this authority.
<b>Probate Registry</b>	A registry which deals with the forms which are needed when someone applies for probate.
<b>Probation</b>	If a court convicts someone of an offence, the court may order that the offender is supervised by a probation officer for a period of at least six months but for no more than three years. This is known as probation and it is an alternative to sending the person to prison.
<b>Process</b>	In law a process is: a summons or writ which is used to order someone to appear in court; the whole of a case from beginning to end; or the total number of summonses or writs issued during a case.
<b>Procurator</b>	A person who has been given authority to manage another person's affairs, such as under a power of attorney.
<b>Procurator fiscal</b>	Under Scottish law, a person who acts as public prosecutor and coroner.
<b>Product liability</b>	The liability of manufacturers and sellers to compensate people for unsafe goods which have caused injury to people or property.

## Glossário

<b>Promisee</b>	A person who has been promised something.
<b>Promisor</b>	A person who has promised something.
<b>Promissory note</b>	A written promise to pay an amount of money to someone at a given time.
<b>Property</b>	The name for anything which can be owned.
<b>Pro rata</b>	In proportion. For example, if 10 items cost £100 you would expect three items to cost £30 if they were priced pro rata. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Prosecution</b>	The name for the team of people (lawyers and so on) bringing proceedings against someone else. Also when legal proceedings are taken against someone it is called a prosecution.
<b>Prosecutor</b>	The person who brings legal proceedings, on behalf of the Crown, against the accused.
<b>Prospectus</b>	A formal document giving details of a company's past performance and of its plans for the future. If a public company wants people to invest in it, it prepares a prospectus.
<b>Prostitution</b>	Selling sexual services for money.
<b>Protected tenancy</b>	A tenancy agreement for a house. It gives the tenant the right to a fair rent and protection from eviction as long as the terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement are kept to.
<b>Proviso</b>	A clause in a legal document which qualifies another section of the agreement.
<b>Procurator fiscal</b>	Under Scottish law, a person who acts as public prosecutor and coroner.
<b>Provocation</b>	Causing someone to lose their self-control by doing or saying something (such as threatening to harm a baby) which would cause a reasonable person to temporarily lose their self-control.
<b>Proxy</b>	A person appointed by a shareholder to go to a meeting of shareholders. The proxy can vote at the meeting for the shareholder.



## Glossário

<b>Proxy form</b>	A form for shareholders by which, if it is delivered to a company at least 48 hours before the shareholders' meeting, the person who is the proxy will be able to vote at that meeting.
<b>Public mischief</b>	Something that someone does which damages the general community.
<b>Public nuisance</b>	A crime by which the general public is put in danger or suffers damage to its health, property and so on.
<b>Putative father</b>	The man found by a court to be the father of an illegitimate child.

### Q

<b>Qualifying child</b>	When used in connection with Child Support this means a natural child or adopted child who is under 16, or under 19 if receiving full-time education.
<b>Quango</b>	An organisation set up by the Government to do a particular activity. It is partly independent and does not form part of the Government.
<b>Quarter days</b>	In England the days when payments which are made every quarter should be paid. The quarter days are the days that the seasons are said to start. The actual dates and their names are: 25 March - Lady Day; 24 June - Midsummer Day; 29 September - Michaelmas Day; and 25 December - Christmas Day.
<b>Queen's Bench Division</b>	Part of the High Court. Its main function is to deal with civil cases.
<b>Queen's Counsel (QC)</b>	A barrister who has been chosen by the Lord Chancellor to serve as counsel to the Crown. A Queen's Counsel is more senior than other barristers.
<b>Queen's evidence</b>	Evidence for the prosecution given by someone who is also accused of the crime being tried.
<b>Quiet enjoyment</b>	Allowing a tenant to use land without interference. When a tenancy is created the landlord is expected to allow the tenant to use the land without any interference, unless the tenancy agreement allows it.



# Glossário

<b>Quiet possession</b>	Using property without interference. When property is sold the buyer should be able to use the property free from interference by the seller.
<b>Quorum</b>	The lowest number of qualifying people needed for a meeting to be able to make a decision.
<b>R</b>	
<b>Racial discrimination</b>	Treating someone less favourably because of their race, colour, nationality or culture.
<b>Rack rent</b>	The full market value rent of a property.
<b>Rape</b>	Having sex with a person without their permission (such as if they were asleep or unconscious) or forcing them to have sex against their will.
<b>Real</b>	Relating to immovable property such as buildings or land.
<b>Real estate</b>	Land owned by someone who has died. In the USA it is also land and buildings used for business purposes.
<b>Real property</b>	Land and buildings, minerals in the land and rights over the land.
<b>Realty</b>	Another word for real property.
<b>Reasonable force</b>	Necessary force. Reasonable force is a complex issue but essentially use of some force must be necessary to defend your property or yourself and the force used must be in proportion to the threat.
<b>Receiver</b>	Someone appointed to: sell assets to raise money to repay lenders; or protect property.
<b>Receiving</b>	To gain control over property, including properties acquired illegally or unethically.
<b>Recognisance</b>	An undertaking, given by someone to a court, to make sure that they do what the court requires. If they do not do as the court wishes they may have to pay a sum of money.
<b>Record</b>	Set of documents and evidence of a legal case from its initiation to the final decision.
<b>Recorder</b>	A part-time judge in the English judicial system who serves in the High Court.

## Glossário

<b>Repeat offender</b>	A person who continues to commit the same offence.
<b>Reply</b>	A claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999)'s answer to a claim. In a civil case the defendant may offer a defence to the claim, or even make a counterclaim.
<b>Repossession or Repossess</b>	A mortgagee recovering vacant possession of the property mortgaged. Representation Is: acting on behalf of someone else (such as a solicitor acting for a client); taking someone else's place (such as when a court gives an executor the right to deal with a dead person's affairs); or a statement in a contract.
<b>Representative action</b>	One or more people, in a group of people with the same grievance, taking legal action representing the group.
<b>Reprieve</b>	A judge suspending or cancelling punishment for an offence.
<b>Rescission</b>	The cancellation of a contract.
<b>Reservation of title</b>	A contract which leaves ownership of the goods with the seller until the goods have been paid for.
<b>Reserves</b>	Money set aside in accounts which can be spent in later years. Some types of reserve can only be spent if certain conditions are met.
<b>Residence order</b>	An order which a court issues when it has decided where a child should live, setting out details of the court's decision.
<b>Residuary legacy</b>	What remains to be given out from an estate after all debts, taxes and specific legacies have been paid.
<b>Residue</b>	What is left of an estate after all debts, taxes, expenses and specific legacies have been dealt with.
<b>Res ipsa loquitur</b>	Proof is not needed because the facts speak for themselves. If the defendant was in charge of events and an accident was caused on the face of it by negligence, then it may be presumed that the defendant was negligent unless there is evidence to the contrary. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Resisting arrest</b>	A person trying to prevent the police arresting him or her. A charge could be made of obstructing a police officer in the course of duty.
<b>Recovery</b>	Regaining possession of land by taking court proceedings.

## Glossário

<b>Redemption</b>	Paying off all the money borrowed under an agreement.
<b>Redundancy</b>	Being dismissed from a job because it no longer exists.
<b>Registered land</b>	Any land recorded at the Land Registry. There is a system of recording and registering, at the Land Registry offices, details of land ownership and interests in land.
<b>Registered office</b>	The official address where documents can be served on a company. Also, the company's registers can be inspected at the registered office.
<b>Registrar of Companies</b>	An official in charge of the office which keeps records of registered companies. There is a registrar for Scotland and another one for England and Wales.
<b>Reinsurance</b>	An insurance company insuring part of a risk it is covering. If an insurance company has taken on a large insurance contract it may decide to spread the risk of loss by insuring part of the risk with another insurance company.
<b>Release</b>	Means: to give up a valid claim against someone; to free someone from prison; or a document used to cancel a claim one person has against another.
<b>Remainder</b>	An interest which starts when a previous interest finishes. When more than one person has been left an interest in land the first person to possess an interest will have to die before the next person can possess an interest in the land, and so on.
<b>Remand</b>	Being kept in prison or paying bail. If an accused person is placed on remand they are either kept in prison for a short period or have to pay bail or get someone to pay it for them. It is used for short periods before a trial starts.
<b>Remedy</b>	Using the law to get compensation for damage done or for rights infringed. Also, a remedy can be using the law to prevent something from happening.
<b>Renouncing probate</b>	A proposed executor refusing to act. Sometimes when a testator dies an executor will not wish to accept appointment. The executor has to tell the Probate Registry about it in writing.
<b>Rent</b>	A regular payment to the landlord by a tenant in return for being allowed to possess and use the landlord's property.

## Glossário

<b>Resolution</b>	A decision taken by the members of a company in a meeting.
<b>Respondent</b>	The person an action is being taken against.
<b>Restitution</b>	Is: an order for the return of stolen goods to the victim of the theft or for compensation to be paid to the victim; or a writ, following a successful appeal, for the return of the items lost after the original case.
<b>Restraining order</b>	An order which a court may issue to prevent a person from doing a particular thing. For example, if someone has been harassing another person, the court may order that the harassment must stop.
<b>Restriction</b>	When placed on a piece of land the owner cannot sell or mortgage the land.
<b>Restriction order</b>	This order by the Crown Court prevents a person being discharged from hospital, to protect the public.
<b>Restrictive covenant</b>	A deed which restricts how a piece of land can be used.
<b>Retainer</b>	A payment to a barrister to act in a case.
<b>Retention of title</b>	Another term for reservation of title.
<b>Reversion Revocation</b>	Cancellation.
<b>Revoke</b>	To cancel or withdraw.
<b>Revolving credit agreement</b>	A loan agreement under which a person can borrow again to top up the loan, as long as they do not go over their credit limit.
<b>Right of way</b>	A legal right obliging the owner of land to allow authorised people to cross it.
<b>Rights issue</b>	An issue of extra shares by a company. Existing shareholders can buy extra new shares in proportion to the shares they already hold. The shares are usually on sale at a lower price than the stock market price to encourage shareholders to buy. The shareholders can sell the rights if they do not wish to use them.

# Glossário

**Riot**

A gathering of 12 or more people using, or threatening to use, violence to achieve a common end.

**Robbery**

Using or threatening to use force while carrying out a theft.

**S**
**Sale or return**

An arrangement under which goods can be kept by the potential buyer for a period while their resale is attempted. Unsold goods can be returned if the conditions of the contract have been kept to and the buyer pays for the goods used.

**Salvage**

Compensation paid by the owners for saving ships, aircraft and property from the sea. Satisfaction is: paying a debt; settling an obligation by an act; or settling an obligation by substituting something satisfactory for what was originally required.

**Scheme of Arrangement**

An agreement between a person with debts, who cannot pay them when they are due, and the creditors. The creditors share the money the debtor manages to pay in proportion to what they are each owed.

**Scrip**

A certificate showing the extra shares and fractions of shares the owner is entitled to.

**Scrip dividend**

A dividend paid in shares instead of cash.

**Scrip issue**

Free shares offered to the members of a company in proportion to their shareholdings.

**Search**

Inspection of the registers maintained by organisations such as the Land Registry. When a person intends to buy a property such as a house, a solicitor arranges the inspection. This is to find out if there is any adverse information about the property or the surrounding area.

**Search warrant**

A warrant issued by a magistrate, or High Court judge, to allow police officers to search premises.

**Securities**

Stocks, shares, debentures and so on where there is a right to receive interest or dividends from the investment.

**Security**

Something of value pledged to a bank by a borrower. If the borrower fails to repay the debt, the bank can sell the security and repay the debt out of the proceeds of the sale.

## Glossário

<b>Security of tenure</b>	Protection from a landlord attempting to obtain possession of the property the tenant is renting.
<b>Sedition</b>	Writing things or saying things which encourage ordinary people to rise up against the Government or which cause discontent.
<b>Sentence</b>	The penalty the court imposes on someone found guilty of an offence.
<b>Separation order</b>	A court order that a husband and wife can live separately if they wish.
<b>Sequestration</b>	A court order for the seizure of someone's property.
<b>Settle</b>	Means: to create a settlement; to end a case by agreement; or to draw up a contract and agree its terms.
<b>Settlement</b>	When property is bestowed, usually by a will or a deed, on a trust for the benefit of people decided by the settlor. It also means voluntarily agreeing to settle a civil case.
<b>Settlor</b>	The person who gives property to a settlement.
<b>Several</b>	Separate (not joint).
<b>Shadow director</b>	A person who has not been appointed a director of a company but nevertheless gives instructions to the directors, which they comply with.
<b>Share capital</b>	The money invested directly in a company by its members. When the shares are first made available by the company, people can apply to buy them. The company states the price it wants for the shares.
<b>Share certificate</b>	A document which certifies who owns shares in a Company. It gives the type and number of shares owned by the shareholder and lists the serial numbers of the shares.
<b>Share premium account</b>	Account in a set of books recording the extra amount over face value that shares have been issued for. If shares are issued for more than their face value, the extra amount over face value is called a share premium.



# Glossário

<b>Specific performance</b>	A court order to complete a contract. The courts may order a person who has failed to fulfil an obligation under a contract to complete it.
<b>Spent conviction</b>	A conviction which, after the passage of a stated time period, does not have to be disclosed (revealed) to a court.
<b>Squatter</b>	A person who occupies land illegally.
<b>Stalking</b>	The name given to a form of harassment where a person is made to feel alarmed or distressed by another person's actions. The prosecution has to prove that a reasonable person would have known that the behaviour would create distress or fear. The harassment must have happened on at least two occasions.
<b>Stamp duty</b>	A tax on the transfer documents for certain types of transaction. Examples are buying shares, patent rights and properties.
<b>Statement of claim</b>	The claimant's written statement setting out the claim in a civil case. (This term has not been used since April 1999.)
<b>Status</b>	How the law regards a person, such as whether the person is a minor or a bankrupt and so on.
<b>Statute</b>	An Act of Parliament.
<b>Statute book</b>	All the existing statutes in a country.
<b>Statute law</b>	The law created by Acts of Parliament.
<b>Statute of limitation</b>	A statute which sets out the time limits within which a court action must take place.
<b>Statutory accounts</b>	Company accounts which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The accounts have to disclose (show) the information required by the Companies Acts.
<b>Statutory audit</b>	An audit required by law. Certain companies have to have their accounts audited by suitably qualified accountants.
<b>Statutory books</b>	Books of account which companies must keep by law to show and explain all their transactions.
<b>Sheriff</b>	Someone appointed each year by the Crown to be a county's senior officer. Each county in the UK has a sheriff. To be eligible for the office the person must own some land in the county. The areas of the law which come within the sheriff's jurisdiction are largely dealt with by the under-sheriff.



## Glossário

<b>Shoplifting</b>	Stealing goods from a shop.
<b>Shorthold tenancy</b>	A tenancy under which the law allows the landlord to repossess the house.
<b>Sine die</b>	Indefinitely. If a case has been adjourned sine die no date has been set for it to be continued. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Slander</b>	Saying something untrue about a person or doing something, such as making a gesture, which damages their reputation.
<b>Small claims court</b>	A section of the county court which deals with small claims. There is a simplified way of making a claim in the county court in a civil case where the claim is for no more than £5000 (or £1000 in personal injury cases). Neither side can claim costs.
<b>Smuggling</b>	Importing or exporting goods illegally to avoid a ban on them or to avoid the duties on them.
<b>Sold note</b>	A note that shows details of investments which have been sold, including the sale price and any charges taken. Stockbrokers produce sold notes for their clients.
<b>Soliciting</b>	A prostitute attempting to get clients in a street or other public place.
<b>Solicitor</b>	A person who can deal with legal matters for the public and give advice on legal matters. All solicitors are listed on the roll of solicitors kept by the Law Society.
<b>Solicitor General</b>	The assistant of the Attorney General. They both advise the Government.
<b>Special resolution</b>	A resolution which must be approved by holders of at least 75% of the shares with voting rights. (Some types of share give their owners the right to vote at shareholder meetings, but there are other types which do not.)
<b>Statutory demand</b>	A written demand for payment of a debt of more than £750.
<b>Statutory instrument</b>	A power delegated by Parliament. Parliament can delegate its power to make and amend law to a person or organisation. A statutory instrument is one of these powers and is used by government ministers to amend legislation.
<b>Stay of execution</b>	The suspension of the carrying out of a court order.
<b>Stipendiary magistrate</b>	A magistrate who gets a salary.

# Glossário

<b>Stockbroker</b>	A person who buys and sells stocks and shares for clients.
<b>Subduct</b>	To withdraw.
<b>Subject to contract</b>	An agreement which is not binding until a contract has been signed.
<b>Sub judice</b>	Describes something being dealt with by a court which cannot be discussed outside the court. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Subpoena</b>	A writ requiring the person it is addressed to to attend at a specific place (such as a court) on a specific date and at a stated time.
<b>Subrogation</b>	Substituting one person for another including all rights and responsibilities.
<b>Subscribers</b>	The people who set up a limited company.
<b>Subsidiarity</b>	Subsidiary activities. Member countries of the European Community agreed that activities could be done by the individual member countries unless they could not do them adequately alone. The European Community therefore should only do subsidiary activities and this is called subsidiarity.
<b>Subsidiary</b>	A company controlled by another company. The control is normally a result of having more than 50% of the voting rights.
<b>Sue</b>	To start legal proceedings in the civil court against someone.
<b>Suicide</b>	The act of killing oneself intentionally.
<b>Sui generis</b>	Describes something that belongs in a particular category or is the only one of its class. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Sui juris</b>	Describes someone who can enter into a contract without any restriction. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Suit</b>	Proceedings brought by one person against another in a civil court.
<b>Summary judgement</b>	Obtaining judgement without a trial. In an action in the High Court to recover damages or a debt, if the claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999) swears an affidavit that it is believed that there is no defence to the claim, the claimant ('plaintiff' before April 1999) can obtain summary judgement.

## Glossário

<b>Summary offence</b>	An offence that can only be tried by magistrates. Most minor offences are summary offences.
<b>Summary proceedings</b>	A trial by magistrates, where the defendant has the right to choose which court should hear the case, but has agreed to be tried in the magistrates' court.
<b>Summary trial</b>	A trial by magistrates.
<b>Summing up</b>	The judge's summary of a case. At the end of a trial by jury the judge explains points of law in the case to the jury, explains the jury's role and summarises the evidence.
<b>Summons</b>	An order by a court that a person attend at a particular court at a stated time on a particular date.
<b>Superior courts</b>	The higher courts in English law, which include the High Court, the Court of Appeal, the Crown Court and the House of Lords. Their decisions act as precedents for the lower courts to follow.
<b>Supervision order</b>	A court order that a child should be supervised by a probation officer or a local authority.
<b>Supra</b>	Above. (This word is Latin.)
<b>Supreme Court</b>	The highest court below the House of Lords. The full name is the Supreme Court of Judicature. It is divided into: the Crown Court; the High Court of Justice; and the Court of Appeal.
<b>Surcharge</b>	A penalty charged if tax is paid late. It is also an extra charge banks make if customers do not keep to the agreements they made with the bank.
<b>Surety</b>	Someone who takes responsibility for someone else's debts or promises, and guarantees that they will be paid or undertaken (done). It is also the name for the money put up as security that someone will appear in court. If they do not appear in court the money will be forfeited.
<b>Suspended sentence</b>	A sentence that is postponed until the offender is convicted of another offence.
<b>SWIFT payment</b>	A payment from one bank account to another using the SWIFT system. SWIFT stands for Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications and it is an international system for paying by credit transfer.

# Glossário

## T

<b>Tangible asset</b>	An asset which can be physically touched.
<b>Tangible property</b>	Property that physically exists.
<b>TAURUS</b>	A computer system intended to replace paper stock transfer forms and share certificates.
<b>Tax</b>	Money raised by the Government to pay for the services it provides. Some taxes are called indirect because they are part of the price we pay for goods and services, such as VAT. Other tax is called direct because the individual taxpayer pays it. Income tax and corporation tax are examples of direct taxes.
<b>Taxable supply</b>	A term for supplying goods and services on which value added tax can be charged. This applies even if the tax rate is 0% at present, because it can be increased if the Government chooses to.
<b>Taxation</b>	The levying of taxes.
<b>Taxation of costs</b>	The scrutiny of and, if necessary, the lowering of a solicitor's bill to a client. The scrutiny is done by a court officer.
<b>Tax avoidance</b>	Reducing tax bills by using legal means.
<b>Tax evasion</b>	Breaking the law to reduce tax bills, such as by concealing income.
<b>Tax point</b>	The date when value added tax arises on goods or services supplied (or made available) to a customer. The tax point should be displayed on invoices. It is not necessarily the same as the date of the invoice.
<b>Teeming and lading</b>	A term used to describe attempts to hide the loss of cash received from one customer by using cash from other customers to replace it. This fraud can carry on by using cash from other customers in the same way.
<b>Tenant</b>	A person or organisation granted a lease.
<b>Tender</b>	Supplying a price for a job. If an organisation asks firms to send in tenders for supplying something, they are asking for firm written offers to do the work to an agreed standard and at a stated price.

## Glossário

<b>Tenure</b>	How a piece of land is held by the owner (for instance freehold or leasehold).
<b>Term</b>	Any of the clauses which form part of a contract.
<b>Terra</b>	Land. (This word is Latin.)
<b>Terrorism</b>	Using violence for political purposes.
<b>Testament</b>	A will dealing with personal property.
<b>Testamentum</b>	Another name for a will.
<b>Testator</b>	A person who makes a will.
<b>Testify</b>	To give evidence.
<b>Testimony</b>	The evidence a witness gives in court.
<b>Theft</b>	Taking someone else's property dishonestly, with the intention of never returning it.
<b>Threatening behaviour</b>	Using threats, abuse or insults against another person.
<b>Timeshare</b>	An arrangement where people can buy a share in part of a property for a period of time in each year. They can use their part of the accommodation each year for the period that is theirs.
<b>Title</b>	The right to own something.
<b>Title deeds</b>	The documents which prove who owns a property and under what terms.
<b>Toll</b>	A payment in return for being allowed to travel over a road, bridge and so on.
<b>Tort</b>	Doing something which harms someone else. It may result in a claim for damages. (This word is Old French.)
<b>Tortfeasor</b>	Someone who commits a tort.
<b>Trademark</b>	A mark which is registered at trademark registries and which is used on products produced by the owner. It is illegal for anyone else to display the mark.

## Glossário

<b>Transcript</b>	The official record of a court case.
<b>Transferable securities</b>	Securities, such as debentures, which can have their ownership changed.
<b>Transferee</b>	The person something is transferred to.
<b>Transferor</b>	The person who transfers something to someone else.
<b>Treason</b>	The crime of betraying your country such as helping your country's enemies in wartime.
<b>Treasure trove</b>	Treasure found in a hiding place and whose owner cannot be traced. It belongs to the Crown but the finder and the landowner may get a reward.
<b>Treasury</b>	Government department which administers (manages) the country's finances.
<b>Treasury bill</b>	An unconditional promise by the Treasury to repay money it has borrowed for the short term (up to one year), to pay for government spending.
<b>Treasury Solicitor</b>	The person who gives legal advice to the Treasury.
<b>Trespassing</b>	Going on land without the owner's permission.
<b>Trial</b>	An examination of the evidence in a case and the law which applies.
<b>Tribunal</b>	A body established to act as a tribunal outside the regular judicial system, with the authority to hear and resolve disputes, or a body given legal power to discipline members of a profession.
<b>Trust</b>	A financial arrangement under which property is held by named people for someone else.
<b>Trust corporation</b>	A company which acts as a trustee and holds a trust's assets.
<b>Trust deed</b>	A legal document which is used to: create a trust; change a trust; or control a trust.
<b>Trustee</b>	A person who holds property and looks after it on behalf of someone else.
<b>Trustee in bankruptcy</b>	A person who administers (manages) a bankrupt person's estate and pays any available money to the creditors.



# Glossário

## U

<b>Uberrimae fidei</b>	Of the utmost good faith. In certain contracts (such as insurance policies) one party must disclose (reveal) any material facts to the other party. If they are not disclosed the contract can be cancelled or become unenforceable. (This term is Latin.)
<b>Ultra vires</b>	Beyond one's powers. If an organisation does something ultra vires, what it has done is invalid.
<b>Underlease</b>	The lease of a property by a tenant of the property to someone else.
<b>Undertaking</b>	A promise which can be enforced by law such as a promise made by one of the parties or by their counsel during legal proceedings.
<b>Unfair contract terms</b>	Prevents a party to a contract unfairly limiting their liability. The Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 was passed to control unfair exclusion clauses. In particular, in a case where someone had been killed or injured because of someone else's negligence the act prevented a contract limiting the negligent person's liability.
<b>Unfair dismissal</b>	Sacking an employee unfairly. When an employee has been dismissed it is the employer's responsibility to prove that the dismissal was fair. If an industrial tribunal finds that the dismissal was unfair it can insist on compensation or reinstatement.
<b>Unit trust</b>	A trust which manages investments. People can invest in unit trusts by buying units. The managers of the trust use the money people invest to buy investments. The fund manager values the fund's assets from time to time and puts a new price on the fund's units.
<b>Unlawful wounding</b>	Wounding someone without the justification of self defence or without power given by the law.
<b>Unliquidated damages</b>	The amount of damages decided by a court because the parties to a contract had not agreed in advance how much the damages would be for breaking the terms of the contract.
<b>Unreasonable behaviour</b>	Behaviour by a married person that justifies the other partner in the marriage living apart.
<b>Unregistered company</b>	A company which is not registered under the Companies Acts.



## Glossário

<b>Unregistered land</b>	Land which is not recorded in the registers at HM Land Registry.
<b>Unsecured creditor</b>	Someone who has lent money without getting any security for the loan.
<b>Uterine</b>	Describes people who have the same mother but different fathers.

### V

<b>Vendee</b>	A person who buys something.
<b>Vendor</b>	A person who sells something.
<b>Verdict</b>	The jury's decision at the end of a case.
<b>Vesting order</b>	A way the High Court transfers land without the need for a conveyance.
<b>Vexatious litigant</b>	a person who regularly brings court cases which have little chance of succeeding.
<b>Vicarious liability</b>	A situation where someone becomes responsible under the law for wrongs done by someone else. This often happens when an employee does something wrong while at work which becomes the employer's responsibility (such as an employee working negligently and causing someone else to be hurt because of the negligence).
<b>Violent disorder</b>	Three or more people in a gathering using or threatening to use unlawful violence.
<b>Void</b>	Unable to be enforced by the law.
<b>Voidable</b>	Able to be cancelled in certain circumstances.
<b>Voluntary arrangement</b>	An agreement between a debtor and the creditors. If a person or a company cannot pay their debts when they are due they can come to a voluntary arrangement with the creditors to pay the debts over a period. If the creditors agree with the proposals it avoids bankruptcy of the individual or liquidation of the company.

### W

<b>Ward of court</b>	A person who is protected by the High Court, such as a minor.
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## Glossário

<b>Warrant</b>	Is: a certificate which gives the person holding it the right to buy shares at a given price; a magistrate's written instruction to arrest someone; or a magistrate's written instruction to search a property.
<b>Warranty</b>	A term in a contract. If the term is not complied with damages can be claimed by the injured party.
<b>Wayleave</b>	A right of way through or over a piece of land often for a particular purpose, such as for a pipeline to go through a piece of land or for goods to be carried over it.
<b>Will</b>	A legal document which people use to bequeath (leave as a gift) money and property when they die.
<b>Winding up</b>	Disposing of all a company's assets and paying all its debts. Any money left is then divided among the members.
<b>Without prejudice</b>	When written on a document, the document cannot be used as evidence that a contract or agreement exists.
<b>Witness</b>	A person who sees an event happening, especially a crime or an accident.
<b>Words of art</b>	Words which have a fixed meaning in law so that their use in a legal document can have only one interpretation.
<b>Writ</b>	An order issued by a court telling someone to do something or not to do something. (This has been known as a 'claim form' since April 1999).
<b>Writ of execution</b>	A type of writ ('claim form' since April 1999) used when a court judgement needs enforcing.
<b>Writ of summons</b>	A type of writ ('claim form' since April 1999) used to start a civil case in the High Court. (This has been known as a 'claim form' since April 1999).
<b>Wrongful dismissal</b>	Ending an employee's contract without following the contract's terms.
<b>Wrongful trading</b>	Continuing to trade while knowing that there is little prospect of the company being able to pay its debts.

## Y

<b>Young offender</b>	A person between the ages of 14 and 17 who has committed a crime.
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