

Archaic Words in Legal English

Archaic (old) words are being used less frequently than other terms, so they became rather obscure in the course of time. Old words are used in legal English primarily to avoid repeating names or phrases. For example, *The parties hereto* instead of *The parties to this contract*. We can find a long list of such words in legal English. These words all start with the familiar “here”, “there”, or “where”, but afterwards, leave us scratching our heads. I’ve divided these words into three groups (*here*, *there*, *where*) to simplify the matching exercises. All of the definitions come from a legal dictionary.

A. Match the old modern English “here” word to its correct definition. Use each word only one time.

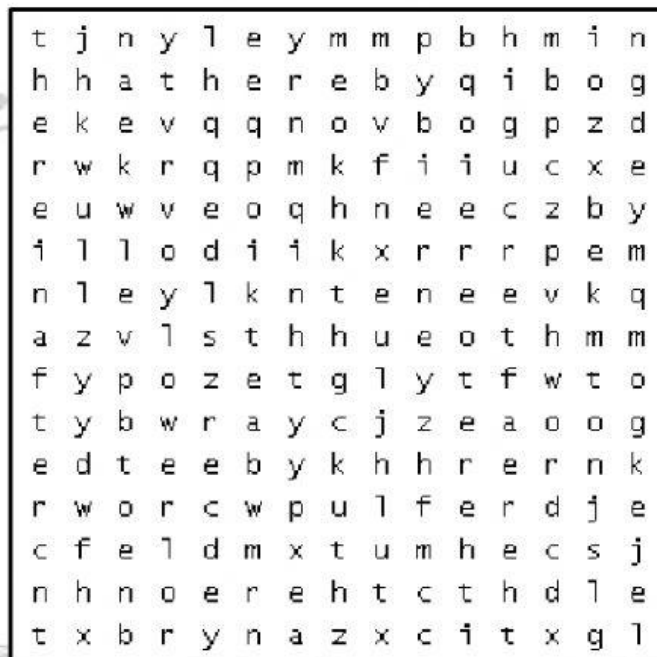
hereat hereby hereafter herein hereinafter hereof
hereto heretofore hereunder herewith

1. _____ from now on or at some time in the future
2. _____ (a) at this place or point; (b) on account of or after this
3. _____ later referred to in this matter or document
4. _____ of this matter or document
5. _____ in this document or matter
6. _____ with this letter or document
7. _____ to this place or to this matter or document
8. _____ later referred to in this matter or document
9. _____ by this means; as a result of this
10. _____ before now

B. Translate the following sentences using some of the words above.

1. Les attributs femelles, *jusqu'ici* inconnus, sont décrits.
2. Les renseignements *ci-dessous* sont donnés sous toute réserve et à titre indicatifs.
3. Ces modifications ont été approuvées le 11 février 2009 (*ci-après* la «deuxième décision sur le sauvetage»).
4. Par suite de cette election, le représentant accepte *par les présentes* la nomination susdite.
5. On trouvera *ci-jointe* une analyse de certains passages du rapport.

C. Find the 10 “there” words in the following puzzle. They can go in any direction – horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forward, and backward. Good luck!!



D. Match the *there* words to their definitions. The dashes represent the number of letters in the correct answer.

1. _ _ _ _ _	after that time
2. _ _ _ _ _	(a) at that place or (b) on account of or after that
3. _ _ _ _ _	by that means; as a result of that
4. _ _ _ _ _	in that place, document or respect'
5. _ _ _ _ _	later referred to in that matter or document
6. _ _ _ _ _	of the thing just mentioned
7. _ _ _ _ _	on or following from the thing just
8. _ _ _ _ _	to that place or to that matter or document
9. _ _ _ _ _	for that
10. _ _ _ _ _	immediately or shortly after that'

E. Translate the following sentences using some of the *there* words from the preceding exercise.

1. Les activités de liquidation et les activités connexes se dérouleront *par la suite*.

2. En conséquence, l'article 8 du règlement (CEE) n° 793/93 prévoit que la Commission dresse la liste des substances prioritaires en tenant compte de certains facteurs *précisés dans ledit article*.

3. Le Directeur général informe *alors* tous les membres du Comité de la question dont l'inscription est proposée et communique, s'il y a lieu, les documents nécessaires.

Legal English

F. Use these letters to make *where* words that match the definitions.

a a b b e f f i n n o o o o r s t t t u u y

1. where _____ the place where someone or something is
2. where __ at which
3. where __ by which
4. where _____ as a result of which
5. where __ (a) in which, or (b) in which place or respect
6. where __ of what or of which
7. where _____ (a) to what, (b) to what place or end

G. Translate the following sentences using some of the *where* words above.

1. Au moment de la rédaction du présent rapport, 16 travailleurs humanitaires demeurent en captivité et l'on ignore tout de leur *sort*.

2. *Auquel* ont été ajoutées certaines règles nécessaires et de brèves observations de la langue italienne.

3. La Norvège préconise une approche globale *dans laquelle* le désarmement et la non-prolifération devraient s'appuyer réciproquement.

4. En effet, une nouvelle relation s'instaure *dans laquelle* les signataires autochtones constituent de véritables gouvernements.

5. J'ignore *de quoi* parle la députée.

Glenn P. Gipson