

Legal English Test

Common Words with Uncommon Legal Meaning

Put the words in the box into the following sentences.

accessory action assign battery damages devise file
injury notice of course party render residue served stay

1. The _____ of proceedings sent to the embassy contains a description of the facts, the charges against the accused, his or her means of defense, as well as the indictment.
2. The _____ of his estate after bequests had been made was to be used for the maintenance of these schools.
3. Pursuant to article 21, on the protection of young people, a summons _____ on a minor aged under 12 years may be remitted to his legal representative.
4. Pursuant to their oath, jurors must endeavor to _____ a verdict based upon the evidence which has been adduced before them.
5. Under these circumstances, a _____ of proceedings would be a just and appropriate remedy.
6. The right of petition has now caught on with local citizens and when the need arises, they use it as a matter _____.
7. Property acquisitions by gift, bequest, or _____, and property acquired before marriage are considered separate property.
8. For his part in the assault, my client is willing to confess to the charge of _____.
9. Your honor, my client was not a _____ to these charges, and I would like to know why she is here.
10. A breach of contract, negligence, and breach of duty are all considered to be types of _____ under the law.
11. You hereby _____ to the Promoter all intellectual property rights (including future rights) in your entry and otherwise arising in connection with your entry.
12. He plans to _____ suit against your country in every international tribunal.
13. A criminal _____ is a proceeding initiated by the government to punish a person or entity for a crime.
14. Mary hired Tom to fix her toilet; however, the work that Tom did caused flooding and ruined Mary's carpet. The judge awarded Mary _____ to cover the cost of fixing the toilet and replacing the carpet.
15. Joe gives Josh the blue-prints to a bank. Josh robs the bank. Joe is an _____ to the robbery.

Complex Prepositions

A. Put the words from the box into the sentences on the next page.

clarity complex prepositions formal style information vagueness

- _____ are multi-word phrases that function as a single preposition. (2 words)
- Since prepositions introduce noun phrases, the frequent use of complex prepositions results in nominalizations and contributes to a more _____ (2 words)
- Complex prepositions may help reduce _____. (1 word)
- The disambiguating function of complex prepositions is used to achieve _____ in legislative writing. (1 word)
- According to (Bryan A.) Garner, if your sentences have too many prepositions then, as a writer, you are trying to insert too much _____ into the sentence. (1 word)

B. Place the nouns from the box into the blank spaces to make accurate complex prepositions.

accordance addition behalf charge comparison exception
exchange expense means reference result sake

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. on _____ of | 7. in _____ with |
| 2. as a _____ of | 8. in _____ to |
| 3. by _____ of | 9. in _____ of |
| 4. with the _____ of | 10. in _____ for |
| 5. with _____ to | 11. for the _____ of |
| 6. in _____ to | 12. at the _____ of |

C. Match the English complex prepositions to their French counterparts. Write the correct letter in the box to the left of the English expression. Careful! this is very tricky! There is only ONE acceptable translation for each expression.

	at the behest of	A. en désaccord avec
	at the hands of	B. découlant de l'absence de
	at the instance of	C. sur l'ordre de
	at variance with	D. selon
	devoid of	E. à la demande de
	for the sake of	F. à l'exception de
	from want of	G. par rapport aux
	in comparison with	H. conformément à
	in compliance with	I. de la part de
	in conformity with	J. dans l'intérêt de
	with the exception of	K. au sens de
	within the meaning of	L. dénué de

Archaic Words

Match the archaic modern English word from the box to its correct definition. Use each word only once.

hereafter hereat hereby hereinafter hereof hereto heretofore
 herewith thereafter thereat thereby therefor therein thereafter
 thereof thereon thereto thereupon whereabouts whereat
 whereby wherefore wherein whereof whereunto

1. with this letter or document	
2. as a result of which	
3. to that place or to that matter or document	
4. to this place or to this matter or document	
5. for that	
6. immediately or shortly after that'	
7. at which	
8. from now on or at some time in the future	
9. after that time	
10. of what or of which	
11. in that place, document or respect'	
12. before now	
13. of this matter or document	
14. of the thing just mentioned	
15. on or following from the thing just	
16. (a) in which, or (b) in which place or respect	
17. (a) at that place or (b) on account of or after that	
18. (a) at this place or point; (b) on account of or after this	
19. by that means; as a result of that	
20. by which	
21. (a) to what, (b) to what place or end	
22. later referred to in this matter or document	
23. later referred to in that matter or document	
24. the place where someone or something is	
25. by this means; as a result of this	

Adjectives to Describe Character Traits

A. Make these adjectives opposite by adding the correct prefix. One of the adjectives can use two prefixes, but you only need to choose one.

dis- un- in- im-

	friendly		possible
	capable		active
	ambitious		cooperative
	contented		inquisitive
	flexible		fair
	sensitive		imaginative
	organized		perceptive
	intelligent		honest
	polite		orderly

B. Turn these adjectives into nouns by changing the endings of the words. One of the adjectives has two different noun forms, but you only need to choose one.

dedicated =	motivated =
ambitious =	enthusiastic =
dependable =	creative =
punctual =	flexible =
confident =	competitive =
agreeable =	available =
patient =	organized =
efficient =	successful =
impressive =	reliable =
able =	supportive =

C. Use the correct form of the words in exercise B to complete the following sentences.

- a. It is important for me to have some _____ in my working hours.
- b. My company shows its _____ to its employees by putting their needs before those of the customer.
- c. I am very _____ in my ability to perform this task correctly and efficiently.
- d. After many hours of negotiation we finally reached an _____.
- e. Maria is a very _____ worker. She can't wait to get to work in the morning.
- f. I'm not a very _____ person – I always want everything done now!
- g. Rick keeps his personal schedule clear and is always _____ to work overtime.
- h. The way that this company is _____ I'm surprised that anyone knows who their boss is.
- i. This candidate has quite the _____ resume. Just look at all of these qualifications and this experience.
- j. Reliability or _____ is the best trait that any employee can have.
- k. If you are too _____ you could hurt your relationship with your family because you never spend time with them.
- l. An artist and a writer need a high level of _____ to be successful in their field.
- m. I like working for a manager that is _____ of her team members.
- n. Kevin is never late. I wish that all of our employees were as _____ as he is.
- o. My secretary is very _____. He gets his work done quickly and expertly.

Translation Exercise

A. Insert the correct English prepositions into these phrases.

Most of the prepositions in the box will be used multiple times.

according	by	for	if	in	into
of	to	with	within		

ci-après dénommé ou désigné	hereinafter referred _____
conclure un contrat avec quelqu'un	enter _____ a contract _____ someone
conformément à	_____ accordance _____
convenir de	to agree _____
dans des termes et conditions satisfaisants pour	_____ terms and conditions
l'acquéreur	that are satisfactory _____ the Acquirer
dans la mesure permise par la loi	_____ permitted _____ law
dans le cas où	_____ the event that
dans le respect de	consistent _____
dans les cas prévus à l'article 9	_____ the scenarios mentioned _____ Article 9
dans les dix (10) Jours Ouvrés de la date	_____ ten Working Days _____ the date
dans le strict respect de	_____ a manner fully consistent _____

B. Complete the translations of the French legal expressions.

date d'exigibilité	(2 words)
date de prise d'effet	(2 words)
daté et signé	(3 words)
de bonne foi	(2 words)
de ce fait	(3 words)
de façon à ne pas [verbe]	(4 words)
de façon à permettre	(2 words)
de manière directe ou indirecte	(4 words)
de manière non autorisée	(4 words)
de manière suffisamment détaillée	(5 words)
de quelque nature que ce soit	(4 words)
de telle sorte que	(2 words)
de temps à autre	(4 words)
décharger de toute responsabilité	(5 words)
décision prise à l'unanimité	(2 words)
déclarations et garanties	(3 words)
découler de	(6 words)
dégagé de toute obligation	(4 words)
demeurer pleinement en vigueur	(4 words)
dès que possible	(4 words)
au plus tard	(3 words)
désigné individuellement ou collectivement	(5 words)
destiné à être	(3 words)
devant le tribunal	(3 words)
devra veiller à ce que	(5 words)
devront se faire par écrit	(5 words)
difficultés présentes ou anticipées	(4 words)

Complications of International Divorce

A. Match the words from the box to their definitions and synonyms in the table below.

abduction	abroad	arises	boundaries	boundary	conflicts	custody
exacerbate	exemplar	experts	hearing	mediator	NGO	nightmare
prejudged	responsible for	revoked	risk	void	wardrobe	

1. limits

3. invalid

5. obviated

7. likelihood

9. presumed

11. disputes

13. kidnapping

15. Non-Govt. Org.

17. peacemaker, interceder

19. liable, in charge of

2. bad dream

4. clothes cupboard

6. guardianship

8. out of the country

10. intensity, worsen

12. legal proceeding

14. happens, materializes

16. boundary

18. exemplar

20. specialist, maven

B. Answer the questions from the lesson.

1. What is the percentage of international couples among all divorces in the European Union? (3 words + 1 number)

2. What organization deals with the abduction of children by their parents? (3 words)

3. What EU Law deals with the abduction of children by their parents? (2 words + 1 number)

4. Of all the 116,000 missing children cases in the EU, about ____ in ____ are parental abduction. (1 number in each space)

5. About _____ international divorces occur within the EU each year. (large number, don't forget the comma)

6. What type of solutions are the most effective in these cases? (1 word)

7. What does MiKK specialize in? 6 words)

8. Who are the experts of a child's life? (2 words)

Public Speaking

A. Things that we learned from the video.

1. Public speaking is a really important skill that will position you as a what? (1 word)
2. Public speaking is a really important skill that will position you as a what? (1 word)
3. Because you are prepared, and you know what you want to say, and you are getting your point across – people really see that as what? (1 word)
4. According to Warren Buffett (an American business magnate, investor, and philanthropist), when you learn to speak well publicly what do you add to your career? (number, percent sign, 1 word)
5. What is something else that we gain when we do public speaking well? (1 hyphenated word so it looks like 2 words with a hyphen in the middle)
6. The whole reason to speak publicly is to _____. (3 words)
7. Keeping the same order as the video, list the four reasons mentioned in the video why you should take public speaking seriously.
 - A. (2 words)
 - B. (2 words)
 - C. (5 words)
 - D. (2 words)

B. Things that we learned from the notes in class.

1. The great presenters say that the most important thing is to _____. (4 words)
2. Be _____ and _____, and the audience will respond. (1 word each blank)
3. Keeping the word order given in class, what three things make of the “secret” of successful presentations? (1 word each)
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.

4. Your presentation needs to be built around what your _____ is going to get out of the presentation. (1 word)

5. You need to make it easy for your audience to _____ and _____. (1 word each blank)

6. The important thing is to keep your key message _____ and _____. (1 word each blank)

7. What two things can you do to build rapport with your audience?

A. (1 word)

B. (3 words)

8. Start strongly. Don't waste time on explaining who you are. Start by _____. (2 words)

9. Slides should be the _____ to you, the presenter. (1 word)

10. Human beings are programmed to respond to _____. (1 word)

11. You need your presentation to act like a _____. (1 word)

12. List the two main ways of using your voice effectively.

A. (3 words)

B. (6 words)

13. List the three main types of body language to avoid.

A. (2 words)

B. (9 words)

C. (3 words)

14. If you find presenting difficult, it can be hard to be calm and relaxed about doing it. One option is to start by _____. (4 words)

Glenn P. Gipson