

# LAW KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER:

## COMPONENT 1 SECTION A

### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - LEGISLATION

Private Bill	Bill proposed by Local Authority or public company
Private Members Bill	Bill proposed by MP
Public Bill	Bill proposed by government department
Green Paper	Consultation document
White Paper	First draft of bill
First Reading	Title read in House of Commons/Lords
Second Reading	Main debate
Committee Stage	Select committee reviews bill
Report Stage	Select committee reports on findings
Third Reading	Final vote
Royal Assent	Bill becomes Act when signed by Queen
Queen's Speech	Sets out legislation agenda of government

### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - PARLIAMENTARY SUPREMACY, RULE OF LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS AND DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Parliamentary Supremacy	Parliament is the supreme law making body
Limits to Parliamentary Supremacy	Judges, EU, human rights and devolution
Separation of Powers	Ensures nobody has too much power
Constitution	Unwritten in UK, sets out how country governs
Rule of Law	Ancient ideal, law is the master of the government
Element 1	Nobody should be punished unless broken law
Element 2	Everyone should be subject to same laws
Element 3	Rights come from judges, not from government
Rules of Natural Justice	Ensure fairness in law
Human Rights	Essential rights everyone has
Human Rights Act 1998	Sets out human rights in English law
European Court of Human Rights	Deals with human rights violations
Byelaws	Delegated legislation made by local authorities
Statutory Instruments	Delegated legislation made by government depts
Orders in Council	Delegated legislation made by the Privy Council
Affirmative Resolution	Vote required for delegated legislation
Negative Resolution	No vote required for delegated legislation

### ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS:

**5 MARK QUESTIONS:** Include 2 or 3 individual points about the specific area in the questions plus 1 or 2 individual points about the context to the specific area in the questions.

**15 MARK QUESTIONS:** Scenarios - follow the specific instructions for each type of scenario found in your revision book.

### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - LAW REFORM

Consolidation	Brings statutes of one area into one statute
Codification	Brings all law of one area into one statute
Pressure groups	Put pressure on government to change law
Law Commission	Full time, permanent, independent law reform body
Law Reform Committee	Part time, temporary body
Criminal Law Revision Committee	Part time temporary body for criminal law
Royal Commissions	Set up to look at specific area of law
Public enquiries	Set up to look at specific area of concern

### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - EUROPEAN UNION LAW

Parliament	Elected members, no real power
Council	Pass the laws
European Court of Justice	Deals with EU law violations
Commission	Proposes laws
Council of Ministers	Leaders of member states meeting
Treaties	Primary legislation sets out key laws
Regulations	Secondary legislation directly applicable
Directives	Secondary legislation with direct effect
Decisions	Secondary legislation only relevant to the addressee
Direct Applicability	Automatically law
Horizontal Direct Effect	Rights can be upheld against arm of the state
Vertical Direct Effect	Rights can't be upheld against non arm of state

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### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - STATUTORY INTERPRETATION

Presumptions	Starting points for interpretation
Ejusdem generis	Of the same kind
Noscitur a sociis	Word draws meaning from others around it
Expressio unius exclusion alterius	Express mention of one thing implies exclusion of another
Literal rule	Plain ordinary literal meaning
Golden rule	Where the literal rule gives an absurd result, a new meaning can be substituted in
Mischief rule	Finding what the law was introduced to correct
Purposive approach	Finding the purpose of the law
Internal aids	Help to interpret from within the statute
External aids	Help to interpret from outside the statute

### KEY WORDS AND DEFINITIONS - JUDICIAL PRECEDENT

Stare decisis	Stand by your decision
Ratio decidendi	Reason for deciding
Obiter dicta	Other things said
Distinguishing	Where the material facts of current case differ from the precedent case
Overruling	Where a higher court changes the decision of a lower court in a previous case
Reversing	Where a higher court changes the decision of a lower court in the same case
Practice Statement	Used by Supreme Court to change their own past decision when it appears right to do so
Original precedent	Where a new law is created by a judge
Binding precedent	A precedent which has to be followed
Persuasive precedent	A precedent which can be followed if chosen

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### NOTES