



The Thomas Hardy School

Summer Preparation Task

Law A Level

OCR H415

Purpose of task:

Task 1: These are words and phrases which you must be very comfortable using as a law student!

Tasks 2 & 3: The study of Law requires you to read definitions carefully, analyse situations and apply the relevant law accurately. The next exercise will test your ability to do this. You don't need to know anything for this exercise – just try to think logically and analytically and give reasons. Law is about argument.

Recommended resources:

Elaw resources website:

<https://www.e-lawresources.co.uk/>

A Level law <https://a-levellaw.com/>

Case Closed Podcast -

<https://shows.acast.com/caseclosedrevision>

Task: 1

Key Legal Terms – **use legal websites** and your own knowledge to find brief definitions for these key legal terms. Make sure that you understand what you are writing.

Claimant	Judicial Precedent
Defendant	Jury
Victim	Magistrate
Tort	Arbitration
Crime	Liability
Legislation	Appeal
Statutory interpretation	Crown Prosecution Service

Task: 2

The Criminal Law

Section 47 of the Non Fatal Offences Against the Person Act 1861 states that a person is liable for the offence of Actual Bodily Harm if they **apply unlawful force which causes an injury that is “not trivial but not serious”**. This might occur when you punch someone in the face (applying unlawful force) which causes them a black eye (an injury).

1. What does it mean to say that a **“person is liable”** for an offence?
2. To be liable for this offence, the defendant must **“apply unlawful force”**. When might you apply force to someone that is not **unlawful**? (One example might be in a football match when you accidentally knock into someone). Give a few other examples.
3. The offence is called “Actual **BODILY** Harm” – do you think that infecting someone with a disease count as Actual **BODILY** Harm? How about causing someone to have an asthma attack? **Give reasons.**
4. What do you think that the phrase **“not trivial but not serious”** means?

Deadline for Task: First lesson in week commencing 14th September 2026



Peter is 14 years old and is generally a very angry person. He asks to be excused from his Chemistry lesson so that he can go to the bathroom. While in the bathroom, he fills the hand-dryer with concentrated sulphuric acid which he took from his Chemistry lesson and leaves. Paul goes into the bathroom five minutes later, washes his hands and uses the hand dryer. The acid spews out of the hand dryer and sprays his hand. He suffers a minor burn, which needed hospital treatment and left a scar. The police investigate and Peter is arrested and charged with causing Actual Bodily Harm.

For the next two questions, you can only use arguments based around the **definition of ABH and on the facts of the case study**. Do not speculate or make things up!

1. Give **two arguments** that the **prosecution** could give to establish that Peter is liable for ABH
2. Give **two arguments** which **Peter** could give to say that he is not liable

Task: 3

Tort Law

Tort Law covers various types of civil liability to another person if the defendant has, for example, not acted like a reasonable person. For Negligence, the claimant must prove three points:

- the defendant owed them a duty of care
- there is a breach of that duty by the defendant
- that breach of duty caused the loss/harm to the claimant.

When is a duty of care owed? Does a road user owe a duty of care to other road users – if so, why? Give other examples of when a duty of care may exist [an example might be a tree surgeon lopping branches in a public area with the public being nearby].

1. The method of deciding the existence of a duty of care is called the 'neighbour principle'. Think of two factors you think might be relevant to the court in reaching this decision?
2. To decide if there is a breach of that duty, the court compares the defendant's conduct to that of a reasonable person in the same situation. What evidence do you think the court would consider to decide this point?

Eric is a qualified electrician. He is rewiring the electrical system in a concert hall. He is keen to finish early one day, so does not check the work he has carried out that afternoon in the ladies toilet. The concert hall has a music event that evening. Freda, one of the attendees that evening, visits the ladies toilet and then uses the hand-dryer. Due to bad workmanship by Eric, Freda suffers an electric shock and suffers burns to her hands and lower arms. Freda has to take three months off her work as an actor and suffers permanent scarring on her arms due to a rare skin condition, of which she was unaware.

For the next two questions, use points you think would be applied by the judge and justify why you consider those points are appropriate and relevant.

3. Presuming Eric has broken his duty of care to Freda, consider whether Eric's breach of duty means he is responsible for Freda's injuries.
4. Is Eric responsible in Law for the permanent scarring as Freda was unaware she had this rare skin condition.

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Additional Information:

Required Stationery and Equipment for A Level Law

Pens, highlighters, plenty of A4 lined paper, three lever arch folders, plastic wallets, file dividers

Essential Resources

OCR A level law second addition textbook is available from Amazon.

You will be asked to contribute £15 to cover the cost of paper booklets and resources that are provided for every topic.

There will be opportunities to purchase revision guides via the school throughout the year.

Things to Consider Throughout the Year

There is a wealth of resources online and in the library and we subscribe to an online resource called flipped law. You may also like to subscribe to the A Level Law review.

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