

Y11 Introduction to Law

Independent Study Booklet

Summer 2020



Name: _____

Welcome! If you would like to explore Law either in anticipation of studying Law in Autumn, or just for fun, then this is one place to start...

There are a variety of tasks for you to have a go at and explore some of the key ideas and aspects of law that we will explore during the next couple of years. I will be on email if you would like to ask any further questions, or links aren't working. My email address is et@cardiffhigh.co.uk.

You will also find, at the end, a suggested 'watch list' of documentaries and films which are relevant to law (and some that are just great fun!)

Task No.	Outline	Completed Please date	Comment on your response	R	A	G
1	Reflection on current sentencing practice					
2	Operation of the Supreme Court					
3	Case study on the operation of the Criminal Justice System & Young Offenders					
4	UK Supreme Court Cases					
5	Case Study: You be the Judge (Sentencing)					

Task One: Reflection on Sentencing

Why do prisoners only serve half their term? (bbc.co.uk)

Using a range of the information and the source above (linked in the title), produce a summary of the current operation of sentencing in England and Wales in the space below. You may present the information in any format you like, but it must cover the questions below and must not simply be copy and paste.

What influences the sentence the judge hands down?	What type of sentences may a judge hand down?	Why do most offences offer a range of options?	How does a judge decide which tariff to hand down for murder?	When are most offenders released and what happens to them?
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Challenge: Why do you think that people are often upset or confused by the sentences handed to offenders?

Task Two: Supreme Court

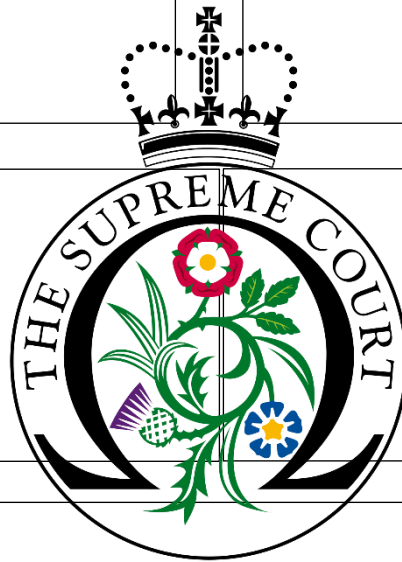
What is the UK Supreme Court? (bbc.co.uk)

Watch this documentary available on [youtube](#):

Using a range of information and the source, complete each of the information boxes below. Remember to include relevant legal terminology.

Name and Location:

Sum up the kind of cases and decisions that it has made over the last years:



What powers does it have (and what can't it do?):

Make up of the court: What issues do you see With who is on the court (pros and cons)?

Exploring a Case:

Pick one of the cases which the article or documentary highlights. Summarise the facts, question and decision by the court. End with a critical comment on your view of the case and decision:

Critical Response:

Task Three: UK Supreme Court Cases

Here are two cases decided in the UK Supreme Court. These cases illustrate the law of 'tort' which means a civil wrong between two individuals or an organisation.

The first is when a man racially abuses and physically attacks a customer, while he (the attacker) is in Morrison's uniform and acting as their employee. Read the case summary here: <https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2014-0087-press-summary.pdf> (Morrisons)

In this instance are Morrisons themselves liable? Why/why not? Explain whether or not you agree with the outcome?

The second case is the famous "Star Wars" case. Mr. Ainsworth designs a 'Star Wars' Imperial Stormtrooper helmet. The rights are with the film company Lucasfilm. Years later Mr. Ainsworth makes money from selling similar models. An American court finds for Lucasfilm. But Mr. Ainsworth is British and in Britain.

Should the American law apply to a British citizen?

Is the helmet a sculpture (a work of art)? In which case Mr. Ainsworth is in breach of copyright. Or not? In which case he is not in breach.

Read the case here: <https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2010-0015-press-summary.pdf>

Task Four: Changing and reforming the law

Double Jeopardy

Watch the episode on **BBC iPlayer: Catching Britain's Killers: The Crimes that Changed Us (Episode 2)** Warning: there may be details which are upsetting.

P.S. the other two episodes are excellent as well... take a look!

1. What issue was raised by the case of Donald Hume?
2. What were the facts of the case of Julie Hogg?
3. What evidence was there that Dunlop may have been responsible for it?
4. What did the jury decide at the trial and what impact did this have?
5. What was the aim of the double jeopardy law?
6. What impact did the Stephen Lawrence report (McPherson Inquiry) have on double jeopardy?
7. What further charges did Billy Dunlop face and what was the evidence to support them? What sentence did he receive?
8. How does this case illustrate lobbying by both individuals and MPs/Peers?
9. What other legal principle would be affected by the change to the law on double jeopardy?
10. Why was Julie Hogg's mother still apprehensive following the White Paper?
11. What are the criteria for double jeopardy to be set aside?
12. Explain one of the further cases affected by double jeopardy change.



Task Five: Case Studies


You Be the Judge

Task: go to: <http://ybtj.justice.gov.uk/>. You will need sound as you are going to work through two cases, completing the questions below as you go. **Burglary & Harassment**



Please note: there are other cases you can have a look at, but these two you must complete for this task!

Offender



NAME:
Alexander Jackson

AGE: 26

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS:
Two for domestic burglary

OFFENCE:
Burglary

Defendant One: *Alexander Jackson*

What did he do?

What was the plea?

Which court was it heard in and why?

Who determines sentencing for the defendant?

Relevant information from the police officer:	Relevant information from the Victim:

Will the fact that the victims were at home at the time of the break-in affect your sentence?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

Do you think the fact that an item of sentimental value was taken is significant?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

Mitigating Factors	Aggravating factors

Would a genuine commitment from Alex to come off drugs affect your sentence?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

What other circumstances might be relevant in sentencing:

Sentence choices:


- 1. Prison: 2.5 years (½ in custody + ½ monitored in the community)
- 2. Prison: 3.5 years (½ in custody + ½ monitored in the community)
- 3. Prison: 4.5 years (½ in custody + ½ monitored in the community)
- 4. Prison: 6 years (½ in custody + ½ monitored in the community)

I would chose option _____ because...

He was actually given option _____ because...

What is the **purpose** of sentencing Alex? *Link to the aims of sentencing – which do you think was uppermost in the judge's mind*

Offender



NAME:
Chris Williams

AGE: 19

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS:
None

OFFENCE:
Threatening behaviour

Defendant Two: Chris Williams

What did he do?

What was the plea?

Which court was it heard in?

What is the relevant evidence from the victim?	Relevant information from the defendant?

Will the fact that Mrs Dixon is elderly influence your sentence?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

Do you think the fact that Chris was provoked is significant?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

Mitigating Factors	Aggravating factors

Will the fact that Chris pleaded guilty from the start affect your sentence?

Yes

Not sure

No

Judge's response:

Sentence choices:

1. Fine: £300
2. Community sentence: 80 hours unpaid work + £100 compensation + £90 costs
3. Community sentence: 200 hours unpaid work + weekly supervision meetings with a probation officer for 2 years
4. Prison: up to 3 months ($\frac{1}{2}$ in custody + $\frac{1}{2}$ monitored in the community)

I would chose option _____ because...

He was actually given option _____ because...

What is the **purpose** of sentencing Alex? *Link to the aims of sentencing – which do you think was uppermost in the Magistrates' mind.*

Below are a range of documentaries and legally linked films...



Title	Origin	Link (if available)
Catching Britain's Killers	iPlayer (BBC)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0009dz2/catching-britains-killers-the-crimes-that-changed-us-series-1-2-double-jeopardy
The Case of Sally Challen	iPlayer (BBC)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000c65v/the-case-of-sally-challen
Crime and Punishment (History of the Law)	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kn1gdZMLtrk
The Briefs	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWTcg8Ye6fl
HARDtalk interview with Lady Hale	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1VozJR_jC8&t=414s
The Bar	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6d78ROXCPgl
To Kill a Burglar	YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BemcOAg53eM
The Trial: Murder in the Family	All4	https://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-trial-a-murder-in-the-family