

GCE

LAW: Rules and theory on the law of contract

SUGGESTED IDEAS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



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Teacher /Lecturer:	
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Course:	A Level Law
Topic:	Rules and theory on the law of contract
Session:	

Component:	Component 2 and 3
Ref. to specification:	The law of contract
Suggested time allocation:	

Aims & Objectives: At the end of these sessions the student will be able to:

- **Explain** the origins and function of the law of contract.
- **Explain** the concept of freedom of contract.
- **Understand** the influence of European law on contract formation and discharge.

Main Teaching and Learning Activities

Teacher/Lecturer Activities:

- Introduce the topic with reference to the aims and objectives set out above.
- Introduction Activity:** Look at Activity on PowerPoint and discuss how many contracts learners might have engaged in today; lots of which they were probably unaware. Can they think of any others?
- Explain the origins of contract law in terms of a promise.
- Activity – Class Discussion:** Learners are to identify as many reasons as they can think of that indicate the importance of contract law. Learners may need to be helped in identifying reasons and could be asked to consider what would happen if a contractual promise was worthless (e.g. what would the effect if employment contracts or consumer contracts became worthless?). The reasons are to be collated and written on flipchart paper or a spider diagram
- Explain the impact of European Law in terms of promoting a harmonious internal market. Some extra background work may need to be done here in terms of recapping the effect of EU Law on UK law. Learners could research the key EU Directives and summarise these in their notes.

Student Activities:

- Group work – thoughts about the different contracts into which learners have engaged over the last few days.
- Group discussion – what is the importance of contract law?
- Research – key European Directives, such as the *Common European Sales Law* published in 2011 which supports the idea of the creation of a global, unified contract system - <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52011PC0635>

Suggested links / resources:

- PowerPoint presentation
- Teacher Guide

Assessment

During the lesson	Group exercises and direct questioning show how much the students have understood on the background to contract law and the difference between a contract and a promise. Facilitate discussion on whether a global, unified contract is a good idea.
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