

Law A Level

Preparation work: Pre-course Reading, Research and Tasks

Pre-reading and research will help you to become more familiar with the legal topics you are going to study on your A Level Law course. Law is a brand new subject to everyone, that will start the course in September and being in the habit of looking out for law related issues and events, will help you to gain an invaluable insight into the subject. If you complete the tasks below they will also help you to become more confident when you start the course.

Specification :

A good place to start is to look at the A level specification and to familiarise yourself with what you will be studying on the course: subject content (each topic that you will study) is across pages 9-17, for the Paper 3 option – we teach Contract Law.

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/law/specifications/AQA-7162-SP-2017.PDF>

Task 1:

The first topics that you will study in Law, is an introduction to the Nature of Law – which looks at the features of a legal system and the Criminal Courts; all of the areas below link to these, open each link, work through it and write a brief summary paragraph or diagram for each topic:

What is Civil and Criminal law?

<https://www.inbrief.co.uk/legal-system/difference-between-civil-criminal-law>

Judiciary and the Rule of Law

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hh5pIZtv1gw>

What is the Supreme Court? And what is the court system of England and Wales?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTHrynZIsBo&t=69s>

Sentencing – why do Prisoners only serve half their term?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-49886053>

Case Studies:

<https://www.e-lawresources.co.uk/Donoghue-v-Stevenson.php>

<https://www.e-lawresources.co.uk/R-v-Ireland.php>

<https://www.e-lawresources.co.uk/Carlill-v-Carbolic-Smoke-Ball-Co.php>

Task 2:

Click on each of the above links to take you to a legal case and complete the following:

- 1) Summarise the key facts of the case (which is what happened).
- 2) What was the outcome or legal decision made in this case?
- 3) Identify whether the case is concerning Criminal or Civil law?

Websites for Further Research and Reading:

One of the great things about Law is that it is always in the news, often in relation to Parliament, the Government and the Courts, keeping up to date with the news and how it relates to law really enhances your understanding of law:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cz4pr2gdg4dt/law-and-order>

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/topic/law?page=1>

<https://www.supremecourt.uk>

Documentaries, series and films to watch:

Below are a range of law documentaries and legally linked films:



Title	Origin	Link
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
Toxic Town The Corby Poisonings	Horizon (BBC)	https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x7szfhc

Task 3:

Source two of the above and watch in full. Write a summary of the key legal issues covered.

Progression Opportunities

Why choose Law A Level:

<https://www.cife.org.uk/article/guide-individual-a-level-subjects/all-about-a-level-law>

<https://www.thelawyerportal.com/free-guides/legal-careers-deciding-on-law>



Explore the range of careers you can access by studying Law:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/law-sector/law-careers>

<https://www.thelawyerportal.com/free-guides>

Law is the “must have” A level – try out a current hot legal topic in a (free) virtual session with the University of Law, twilight lectures start on the 5th May to the 2nd June.

<https://elinku.clickdimensions.com/m/1/89048961/p1-b20108->

[2cba34e5557247b3b884cacd7ea279da/1/644/ea169776-9d92-4090-8499-814dbfb08fe4](https://elinku.clickdimensions.com/m/1/89048961/p1-b20108-2cba34e5557247b3b884cacd7ea279da/1/644/ea169776-9d92-4090-8499-814dbfb08fe4)

We hope you enjoy completing these tasks and look forward to you joining the course.

