

Candidate Number:

**QUB/Institute of Professional Legal Studies  
and UU/Graduate School of Professional Legal Education**

**Admissions Test December 2015  
Section D**

1. Janeen is selling her house at £92,000.00. She is purchasing a new property at £162,000.00. Janeen's solicitor is charging her professional fees amounting to 0.5% of the sale price and 0.5% of the purchase price. The solicitor charges VAT at a rate of 20% on his professional fees. Janeen also has to pay outlays as follows: Stamp Duty which is charged at a rate of 1% of the purchase price for Janeen's new house, £380.00 for searches and property certificates, £372.50 for Land Registry fees. How much in total does Janeen pay her solicitor including professional fees, VAT and outlays?
- (a) £165,642.50
- (b) £165,896.50
- (c) £165,524.00
- (d) £164,276.50
- (e) £165,516.50
2. Mary goes on holiday to Spain with a group of friends. They decide to take a sightseeing tour. The bus leaves their hotel at 9.30 a.m. and travels non-stop for one hour fifteen minutes to the first destination, a palace. The group spend one hour on a guided tour of the palace and a further 20 minutes having a coffee. The group then walk to the next destination, an historical monument, which takes 25 minutes. They spend a total of two hours twenty minutes at the monument and then walk back to the palace, which takes half an hour. They take the bus to the final destination, a vineyard, which is 45 minutes from the palace and one hour away from the hotel. They spend one hour twenty minutes at the vineyard and then return by bus to the hotel. At what time do they reach their hotel?
- (a) 5.25 p.m.
- (b) 18.05 h
- (c) 16.25 h
- (d) 6.25 p.m.
- (e) 18.40 h

Candidate Number:

**Admissions Test December 2015**  
**Section D**

3. Alan Bean was driving from work one evening when he was involved in a collision with another vehicle. Alan's car was badly damaged but repairable. Alan suffered serious chest injuries but has made a full recovery. The other vehicle driver's insurance company admitted liability in full. It paid Alan £15,500.00 for his personal injuries and £2,260.00 per month for loss of salary from 1st July 2014 to 31st January 2015. The repairs to Alan's car cost £3,450.00 plus VAT at a rate of 20%. The insurance company also paid Alan's legal fees which amounted to £3,688.00 plus VAT for his solicitor, £1,550.00 plus VAT for his barrister, court fees of £675.00 and a fee of £210.00 for each of 3 medical reports. How much in total did the insurance company have to pay?
- (a) £42,360.60
- (b) £40,790.60
- (c) £42,740.60
- (d) £42,630.60
- (e) £43,050.60
4. When Morgan Phillips died, he left a large estate. The solicitor's total costs for dealing with all the necessary legal formalities amounted to 0.5% of the net estate plus VAT at a rate of 20%. The net estate is the total amount of Mr Phillips' assets when he died less any debts and expenses which had to be paid out of his assets. These included the cost of his funeral, the fees to be paid to court and any other debts. Mr Phillips' house was worth £265,000.00 and he had £53,260.00 in various bank accounts. He had forty GSK shares which were worth £634.00 each. His funeral cost £3,245.00 and the court fees for the grant of probate for his will were £250.00. A repayment of £350.00 also had to be made to his pension provider for overpayment of his pension. How much was the solicitor's total bill?
- (a) £1,698.88
- (b) £2,040.75
- (c) £2,038.65
- (d) £2,040.15
- (e) £2,058.12

Candidate Number:

Admissions Test December 2015  
Section D

5. Barry owns a classic car which runs on petrol. Larry owns a diesel car. Both men travel with their families to their shared Donegal holiday home from Belfast for the weekend during the spring and summer months. Barry's car does 25 miles to the gallon. Larry's car does 48 miles per gallon. Diesel costs £1.18 per litre. Petrol costs £1.12 per litre. Having arrived home at the end of the last weekend away, Barry's wife, Sheila, does some calculations to work out how much each family has spent on fuel over a total of 21 weekends. She calculates that the distance from Belfast to their Donegal destination is 112 miles. Whose fuel bill is larger and by how much?

1 gallon = 4.5 litres

- (a) Larry's by £427.95
- (b) Barry's by £948.33
- (c) Barry's by £213.97
- (d) Barry's by £427.95
- (e) Larry's by £213.97
6. John Aldrin works for a construction firm. He has to travel twice a month to Head Office which is based in Wales. He stays in Wales for two nights per trip. The firm reimburses John his travel costs and expenses. John drives to the airport which is 22 miles from his office. He is able to claim 45p per mile for each leg of the return trip from the office to the airport. Parking at the airport costs £14.99 per trip. As a member of the airline's loyalty scheme, John pays £79.99 for each return flight. He pays £69.00 per night for his hotel room. In one year, John travelled to Wales on every occasion as required except for one occasion when he was ill and therefore did not travel. How much did John's annual travel costs and expenses claim amount to for that year?
- (a) £6,066.72
- (b) £4,226.94
- (c) £5,813.94
- (d) £5,586.24
- (e) £3,033.36

Candidate Number:

**Admissions Test December 2015**  
**Section D**

7. Edwin Armstrong is buying a new flat and has his current property, a house, on the market for sale. Edwin has just received an acceptable offer for his house but the purchasers cannot pay the purchase money for three months. Edwin is keen to move into the flat as soon as possible so he decides to take out a loan to allow him to buy the flat without waiting to receive the money for his own house. Nice Bank agrees to lend Edwin the £275,000.00 purchase money at a rate of interest of £32.20 per day for the first 25 days and thereafter at a rate of interest of £28.10 per day. Nice Bank also charges Edwin an arrangement fee of £425.00 and a valuation fee of £180.00. Edwin receives the loan on 23rd January 2015. He receives the money for the sale of his house and pays back Nice Bank all money owed on 27th April 2015. Nice Bank requires Edwin to pay interest for the day on which he borrowed the money but not for the day on which he paid back the loan. How much does Edwin pay to Nice Bank on 27th April 2015?

- (a) £3,348.90
- (b) £278,377.00
- (c) £277,743.90
- (d) £3,377.00
- (e) £278,348.90

8. Edgar Duke is a farmer. He wishes to sell his farm. He takes the title documents for his farmland to his solicitor in order to check the acreage shown on the deeds. Edgar has five deeds. The measurements in the newer deeds are in hectares whereas the older ones are in acres. Three of the deeds contain 5.8 hectares, 4.5 hectares and 7.7 hectares respectively. The remaining older deeds contain  $28\frac{1}{4}$  acres and  $19\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Edgar plans to set the asking price at £11,000.00 per acre for his land and £315,500.00 for the house. What is the asking price for his whole property?

**1 hectare = 2.45 acres**

- (a) £918,816.33
- (b) £720,500.00
- (c) £1,036,000.00
- (d) £1,323,100.00
- (e) £1,007,600.00

Candidate Number:

**Admissions Test December 2015**  
**Section D**

9. Charlie Conrad is an engineer who was instructed by a Plaintiff's solicitor to carry out a site inspection, write a report and attend court to give evidence in civil proceedings. Charlie charges travelling expenses of 43p per mile (mileage is calculated by reference to the distance to and from his office); a fee of £775.00 for writing a report, and £345.00 per half day or part thereof for attending court. The site is 45 miles from Charlie's office. He travels there and back on two occasions to carry out a full inspection. He completes his report. He attends the solicitor's office, which is 52 miles from his office, on three occasions in order to meet with the Defendant's expert. On the first day of trial, Charlie attends court at 9.00 a.m. and remains at court until 4 p.m. when he is informed that the case has been settled. Charlie does not attend court on any further occasion. The court is 15 miles from Charlie's office. What is the total charged by Charlie?

- (a) £1,577.23
- (b) £1,689.46
- (c) £1,676.56
- (d) £1,344.46
- (e) £914.46

10. James Lovell buys a house in Belfast for his son, Fred, who is a student. Before Fred moves in, he and his father decorate the house. At the DIY shop James and Fred put the following items into their trolley; three paintbrushes at £6.99 each, one roller and tray at £4.99, two replacement rollers at £1.99 each, 5 tins of paint at £12.99 per tin, 7 rolls of wallpaper for James' bedroom at £9.99 per roll, 6 rolls of wallpaper for the sitting-room at £8.99 per roll and 5 bags of wallpaper paste at £4.95 per bag. They also buy three dust sheets at £0.99 each. At the till, they find out that the sitting-room wallpaper is on offer at three rolls for the price of two, and that the paintbrushes are also on offer at three brushes for the price of two. James hands in his loyalty card which entitles him to 10% discount off all paint bought in the transaction. How much will James be charged?

- (a) £221.51
- (b) £212.05
- (c) £215.02
- (d) £222.01
- (e) £217.01

Candidate Number:

**Admissions Test December 2015**  
**Section D**

In 1966, the House of Lord's issued the Practice Statement regarding precedent, whose significance cannot be underrated as it allowed the Law Lords to depart from they're own previous decisions where they thought it was right to do so. This had went against the authority of the London Tramways case, who's influence had lasted since 1898. It was said in that case that the House of Lords where bound to follow all of its previous decisions under the principal of stare decisis, even if this created injustice and unduly restricted the proper development of the law. The cases purpose was to ensure that the law would be consistent by making the Lords' decisions binding on themselves. However, it also meant that the law couldnt develop for modern times. Consequently, the Practice Statement reversed the position which gave potential for the Lords to make decisions appropriate for modern days. The text of the Practice Statement is set out below:

"Their Lordships regard the use of precedent as an indispensable foundation upon which to decide what is the law and it's application to individual cases. It provides at least some degree of certainty upon which individuals can rely in the conduct of there affairs, as well as a basis for orderly development of legal rules.

Their Lordships nevertheless recognise that too rigid adherence to precedent may lead too injustice in a particular case and also unduly restrict the proper development of the law, They propose, therefore, to modify their present practice and, while treating former decisions of this house as normally binding, to depart from a previous decision when it appears right to do so.

In this connection they will bare in mind the danger of disturbing retrospectively the basis on which contracts, settlement of property and fiscal arrangements have been entered into and

Candidate Number:

**Admissions Test December 2015  
Section D**

also the especial need for certainty as to the criminal law.

This announcement is not intended to effect the use of precedent elsewhere than in this House.”

The Practice Statement states clearly the Lords’ recognition of a power to depart from precedent as ‘an indispensable foundation’ for judicial decision-making, whilst also affirming its respect for certainty and the dangers of disturbing existing arrangements.

The primary danger of the Practice Statement is that it could make the law uncertain if it is over-used. However, as the power is only to be exercised ‘when it appears right to do so’ it is arguably a limited power. This is arguably borne out by the relatively restrained use which the House of Lords has made of the Practice Statement in subsequent years.