

# PRE-LAW Summer School



## MODULE 0 LAW SCHOOL LINGO, PART 1

### workbook

# LAW SCHOOL LINGO

## 0.1 BASIC LEGAL TERMS

### Black Letter Law

Black letter law refers to the well-established,

\_\_\_\_\_.

Property

Contracts

Criminal Law

\_\_\_\_\_

Civil Procedure

Constitutional Law (maybe)

### SCOTUS

SCOTUS stands for the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

### NOTES

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## Writ of Certiorari

In order for a case to be heard by the Supreme Court of the U.S., one of the parties in the case must be \_\_\_\_\_.

There is no “right” to have your case heard by the US Supreme Court.

## *Per Curiam* Decision

Typically, most of the cases you will read in law school will be \_\_\_\_\_.

A *per curiam* decision is a ruling issued by an appellate court that has \_\_\_\_\_, but the judges have acted \_\_\_\_\_.

### NOTES

#### *Per curiam* Decisions

- Unanimous
- Majority

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## Casebook vs. Hornbook

The casebook will be the \_\_\_\_\_

for your \_\_\_\_\_.

Hornbooks, on the other hand, are \_\_\_\_\_.

They summarize and explain the law of a particular topic.

### NOTES

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## 0.2 LAW SCHOOL SLANG

### Gunner

A gunner is a student who \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### Public Interest vs. Private

Public interest - your work benefits \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. For instance, public  
interest lawyers may work for:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTES

# LAW SCHOOL LINGO

## Public Interest vs. Private, cont'd.

Private law - you work for a \_\_\_\_\_:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Obviously, lawyers who work in the private sector typically have salaries that are significantly higher than those doing public interest law.

## Public interest in the private sector

Sometimes, the divide between public interest and private law is not so clear.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

This concludes Law School Lingo, Part 1. Next we will cover the structure of law school and other terms you need to know in Module 1: Law School Fundamentals.