

## 2. Little Words: Prepositions and Phrasal Verbs

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Dealing with or in contracts?

The rule with little words is that..... there are no rules - you have to learn which combinations are correct and what they mean

Why little words are important - two examples of little words, large errors

Increase the rate by 10% or to 10%?

An indemnity against losses arising out of any claims resulting **in** or **from** any damage or injury caused by a defect in the product? One works, the other doesn't

### 2 STARTING OUT

A young lawyer discusses growing up, living in another country and coming back home. She moves on to

- a) her studies and qualifying / being qualified as a lawyer, and
- b) where she works and who she works for

When there's a choice between a little word and a big word, she always chooses the little one!

The same can be said for everyone in this course - it makes the language sound very **natural**, very **native - speaker**

### 3 THE LAW (I)

What you find **in** a Master Agreement

Legal professional privilege

In a Claim Form do you claim **that** or **for**?

Do you claim **^** expenses or **for** expenses?

What areas of law interest you?

Are you **interested in** the many ways lawyers use interest?

Rules and exemptions – **comply, comply with, fall or fall within?**

**In case** you own a property or **if** you own a property?

## 4 ADVISING

Four advices or should that be pieces of advice?

1) Contracts, binding effect

What the contract says about their profit share. Why are they arguing? I've told them the position and that they don't have a claim

2) What's the tax rate on certain goods? Let me think and advise you later

3) Service contracts, contracts **of** service or contracts **for** services?

4) Someone wants to buy shares in - **or of? or from?** - a subsidiary - can we talk to them or would that be breaching another contract?

## 5 MY FIRM

An Italian lawyer meets an English lawyer at a conference

She tells him about her career - it started at a large firm in Milan

She wanted to work for herself and she did so before she set up a firm

She talks about the firm and the work it does, the firm's clients and large companies' law firms

She finishes by talking about the changes in the profession - clients want more – and the challenges the profession faces

## 6 USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

An impressive talk at a conference

Thinking of working abroad, immigration rules

Going from private practice to in house and perhaps returning

This difficult and unpleasant sounding person bills a lot

An existing office and a possible new one - opinion is split

In recessions insolvency lawyers are very busy but property lawyers fear for their jobs

A criminal lawyer acts for a famous Formula One driver

## **7 WORK (I)**

Friends and partners

Finding and finding out - twice

Moving about informally

How best to discuss a tricky matter - OK let's meet tomorrow

Why we don't want to change the contract

Another negotiation - if you do this, we'll do that

Some instructions from the boss to the junior lawyer

Different boss, different lawyer but same thing

## **8 PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT STAFF**

The head of marketing's challenges when reporting to the management committee

Christine, a proof-reader in Paris, tells us what she does

A PA speaks on the phone to a client looking for a partner and the partner's assistant

The head of HR describes some of the department's work - pro bono, CPD, career development and making sure juniors meet clients

## **9 MONEY and FINANCE**

How property companies fund acquisitions

A trainee in finance tells us what he does

Receiving interest in full

Who's the boss?

Claiming a taxi fare back

Bonds

Increasing fees in line with inflation

Markets – on, off, through, at and in

## 10 THE LAW (2)

Duties – contracts, torts, trusts and company law

Statutory duties

What happen to a suspect after arrest ?

The crime of homicide

Crimes against property

White and blue collar workers

A specialist in white collar crime talks

## 11 MY CAREER

A senior Japanese lawyer's career

The challenges of passing the bar exam

Working at ABC law office, the sort of firm it was and the work

Lots of work, secondment to a client, a different working environment

Going to New York on study leave

Qualifying as a NY lawyer

Working in NY and learning from the experience before coming back

## 12 WORK (2)

Emails and an aircraft

Can the client avoid paying under the contract?

Practical and theoretical training

Instruction from boss to junior lawyer

Comments on a draft

I'm not in the office

Describing privatisation and generally being descriptive

Being against a proposal

Are you going to the next IBA conference?

### **13 COMING and GOING and MORE!**

A large Italian company has called a meeting of its foreign lawyers. Small talk before the meeting - travel at home, to Milan and within Milan

More travel arrangements but a much longer journey

Scheduling a meeting, getting it in the diary

The manufacturing process

Two observations by a lawyer in Dubai

### **14 THE LAW (3)**

Prejudice - racial, without prejudice to, without prejudice and behaving badly in court

How companies are owned, governed and run and changing their articles

He ignored my advice and is now in prison

Immunity

Guarantors - on and off the hook and indemnities

According to and in accordance with

A mandatory provision of Russian law

### **15 WORK (3)**

Advising in a banking transaction

Waiving or waving

A new committee

I owe you, you owe me

Two lawyers discuss new pieces of work

An insolvency lawyer advises

This company's creditors will need an insolvency lawyer soon

Who's the boss and how's business going

Happy days as a trainee in Amsterdam

Man's best friend