

Terms of civil and criminal law

The words in this exercise are used a lot in the legal profession, and appear at various stages throughout this book, so it is important you understand what they mean before you do any of the other exercises. Match the definitions on the left with the words on the right.

1. Money claimed by someone as compensation for harm done.	appeal
2. To send someone to prison or to a court.	arrest
3. An adjective referring to a judge or to the law.	binding
4. Not guilty of a crime.	breach
5. Any act which is not legal.	case
6. A person who has studied law and can act for people on legal business.	charge
7. A disagreement or argument between parties.	civil
8. A specialist court outside the judicial system which examines special problems.	claimant
9. A set of arguments or facts put forward by one side in a legal proceeding.	commit
10. An official who presides over a court.	contract
11. To make an allegation in legal proceedings.	convict
12. Someone who is accused of a crime in a criminal case.	court
13. A person who makes a claim against someone in a civil court.	crime
14. An agreement reached after an argument.	criminal
15. To hold someone legally so as to charge them with a crime.	damages
16. A case which is being heard by a committee, tribunal or court of law.	defence
17. To find that someone is guilty of a crime.	defendant
18. Failure to carry out the terms of an agreement.	dispute
19. To bring someone to court to answer a criminal charge.	evidence
20. To ask a high law court to change its decision or sentence.	fine
21. To say that someone has committed a crime.	guilty
22. Having the legal ability to force someone to do something.	hearing
23. An adjective referring to the rights and duties of private persons or organisations.	injunction
24. The arguments used when fighting a case.	innocent
25. A legal agreement between two or more parties.	judge
26. An adjective referring to crime.	judicial
27. A group of 12 citizens who decide whether or not someone is guilty in a trial.	jury
28. A written or spoken statement of facts which helps to prove or disprove something at a trial.	lawyer
29. To order someone to pay money as a punishment.	legal
30. A court order telling someone to stop doing something, or not to do something.	offence

Civil trial and criminal trial

Watch the video and write down the four differences between civil trial and criminal trial.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____