



ICM

JUNE 2016

AN OUTLINE OF LEGAL HISTORY

Instructions to candidates:

- a) Time allowed: Three hours (plus an extra ten minutes' reading time at the start – do not write anything during this time)
 - b) Answer any FIVE questions
 - c) All questions carry equal marks. Marks for each question are shown in []
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1. Egbert lived in central England in AD 984; his neighbour accused him of stealing one of his sheep but Egbert insisted that all the sheep in his compound belonged to him. Explain the methods that could have been used to **resolve this dispute**. [20]
 2. Compare the different roles of the **Three Superior Courts of the Common Law** developed in the twelfth century. [20]
 3.
 - a) Briefly discuss when and why **equity** developed in England.
 - b) What is meant by the term '**equitable maxims**'? [20]
 4. What were **prerogative writs**? Explain their use in Britain today. [20]
 5. Daniella has received a summons for **jury service** in a month's time.
 - a) Evaluate the historical origins of the jury system.
 - b) Explain what Daniella's role will be next month. [20]
 6. Explain the origins of **magistrates** in the English legal system; what is their role today? [20]
 7. A recent article in a popular UK magazine stated that Ahmed, a famous British businessman, is a homosexual. At his firm's annual conference one of his employees stood up and announced that Ahmed was bankrupt. Ahmed is understandably very upset and worried about the impact of these comments on his business; explain what actions Ahmed may take in **defamation** against the magazine and his employee, and how EACH of the claims will differ. [20]
 8. What is meant by **quasi-contract**? Give examples of its present-day relevance. [20]