

Lecture 1: Law: Overview

❑ Consider the following definition

The English word “law” refers to limits upon various forms of behaviour. Laws prescribe how people ought to behave. There is a vague distinction between man-made law and moral precepts in all societies relations between people are regulated by laws. Law can be defined as a set of rules which form the pattern of behaviour of a given society.

Main Concepts:

- A set of **rules** which form the pattern of **behaviour** of a given **society**.
- A set of = a group of
- behaviour:= (the way we act) or conduct ourselves. (to behave or to act)
- **Society** =A group of people who live together.

❑ Functions of Law

Law essentially serves two functions in modern society. First, it serves to order and regulate the affairs of all “persons” be they individuals, corporations or governments. Secondly, law acts as standard of conduct and morality.

Conduct:

Norms/ rules

Responsibilities

Obligations

Morality:

Values/ principles

Distinction between right and wrong or good or bad behaviour.

Nouns

- Promotion
- Legislation
- Operation
- Distribution
- Administration
- Regulation
- Violation
- Separation

Grammar: Consider the following sentence

The court decision will depend upon the judge's interpretation.

Identify the parts of the sentence. (Subject, verb, object)

- The **subject** is the doer, the person or thing doing something.
- The main **verb** is what the doer is doing.
- The **object** is who or what it is being done to.

Grammar 2: Present simple passive

- ❑ The judge **understands** Mary's argument.
- ❑ Mary's argument is understood by the judge.
- **Complete the rule:**

Present simple passive= am/is/are +past participle

Task: Turn the following sentences to the passive voice

1- People respect the law.

The law is respected by people.

2- He makes a mistake.

A mistake is made. / by him.

3- The law protects people's rights.

People's rights are protected by the law.

Task 2: Match words with their definitions

A- system

B- property

C- ancient

1- Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

2- A thing or things belonging to someone; possessions collectively.

3- A set of things working together as parts of a mechanism.

Key:

Concepts	Definitions
A- System	3- A set of things working together as parts of a mechanism.
B- Property	2- A thing or things belonging to someone; possessions collectively.
C- Ancient	1- Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

