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**TEACHING ENGLISH FOR STUDENTS OF LAW:  
CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES**

In terms of globalization of international business, commerce and communication the English language is widely used as the means of clear delivery of legal terms, concepts and agreements. Increasingly, many global multinational companies now require that their employees worldwide learn English so they can better use resources which are available only in the global language of business.

Lawyers, law students, and international businesspeople worldwide who do not speak English as their native language are filling up Legal English classes. Schools, corporations, and government bodies are looking for teachers who specialize in teaching legal terminology, concepts, and attitudes surrounding this specialization.

Working with legal issues demands special skills, knowledge, and experience. It is also an area of teaching that can favor the legally-minded teacher. Students are highly motivated since the course has clear advantages for them personally or within their company.

The teacher also needs to be highly flexible. Legal English needs vary from client to client and from business to business, but each client or company will have specific demands and needs to meet their individual desired results.

Legal English curriculum for universities should give students the opportunity to extend and activate their legal vocabulary in English; to increase fluency and confidence in using English in professional contexts; and enable students to prioritize their own language learning needs with a view to continued English language development after getting university qualification. A variety of topics are covered by the English language for Lawyers course including aspects of the UK legal system; company law; contract law and property acquisition.

Course activities include:

- Role plays of meetings and negotiations.
- Giving short presentations on legal topics.
- Reading and discussion of legal text, including case reports.
- Vocabulary building exercises.

Effective lawyers are affective communicators, so the first steps in learning English should be made to develop socializing skills. Lawyers meet clients and potential clients in a variety of social and professional contexts. Students discuss the particular challenges of establishing business relationships for lawyers within these contexts and are engaged in role plays involving how to meet and interview people.

A lot of time should be devoted to vocabulary and special terminology studies. Different types of law (i.e., commercial, criminal and administrative) and the terminology associated with these areas should be analysed. In addition, students are introduced to the vocabulary of some of the most commonly used Legal English terms.

Lawyers are required to attend meetings with, and on behalf of, clients. They are also called upon to negotiate different types of transactions. These issues are particularly challenging when done in English by a non-native speaker. Students are introduced to common language and cultural issues faced in meetings and negotiations, special “Meetings and negotiations” vocabulary. At English classes students develop their meetings and negotiations language skills. Meeting and negotiation role plays are also included.

Written communication is an important part of legal practice. Lawyers are called upon to write in many different forms, including emails, memos, letters and memoranda of law. Each of these forms is discussed in a legal context. Also discussed are confidentiality warnings and plain English versus legalese.

Thus, the English language comprehension is one of the basic demands for modern lawyers, which should be acquired at university. Development of English speaking, reading, writing and listening skills is one of the main goals of the English teaching curriculum for universities.