

## Important Short Questions & Answers - Topics

### 1. Wagering Agreements

A wagering agreement is a type of contract where two or more parties agree to bet or gamble on the outcome of an uncertain event. In a wagering agreement, each party puts forward something of value, such as money or property, which will be won or lost depending on the outcome of the event.

Wagering agreements are generally unenforceable by law as they are considered to be against public policy. This is because they involve gambling, which is often associated with negative social and economic consequences such as addiction, financial ruin, and fraud.

However, there are certain exceptions to this rule. For example, in some jurisdictions, certain types of gambling are legal and regulated, such as horse racing or lotteries, and wagering agreements related to these activities may be enforceable. Additionally, contracts for insurance, where the payment of a premium is considered a wager on the occurrence of an uncertain event, are generally enforceable.

It's important to note that laws regarding wagering agreements vary depending on the jurisdiction, and it's always advisable to seek legal advice before entering into any type of agreement involving gambling or betting.

### 2. Novation

Novation is a legal concept that refers to the transfer of rights and obligations from one party to another. In a novation agreement, one party (the transferor) transfers its contractual rights and obligations to a third party (the transferee), who agrees to assume those rights and obligations.

Novation is often used in business and finance contexts to transfer ownership or control of assets, contracts, or agreements. For example, a company might transfer ownership of a lease or a loan agreement to another company through novation.

Novation differs from assignment in that it involves the complete transfer of rights and obligations, whereas assignment involves the transfer of only the rights to receive benefits under a contract. Novation also requires the consent of all parties involved, while assignment may not.

Overall, novation is a useful legal tool that allows parties to transfer rights and obligations in a way that is clear and legally binding.

### **3. Quantum Meruit**

Quantum meruit is a Latin term that means "as much as he has earned." In legal terms, it refers to a doctrine that allows a person to recover a reasonable amount for services or goods provided, even in the absence of a formal contract.

In other words, if one party has provided goods or services to another party without a prior agreement regarding payment, the party providing the goods or services may be able to recover a reasonable amount for their work under the doctrine of quantum meruit. The amount recovered would be based on the fair value of the goods or services provided, and would be determined by a court if the parties cannot come to an agreement on their own.

Quantum meruit is often used in cases where there was no formal contract, or where the terms of the contract were not fully defined, or where there was no agreement on the price or compensation for the goods or services provided.

### **4. Privity of Contract**

Privity of contract refers to the legal relationship that exists between parties who have entered into a contract. It means that only the parties to the contract have rights and obligations under the contract, and no one else can enforce those rights or be held liable for any breaches.

In other words, privity of contract means that only the people who have signed or agreed to the contract can be bound by its terms, and they alone can sue or be sued for any disputes arising from the contract. This principle is important because it limits the liability of parties to the contract and prevents third parties from interfering with their contractual relationships.

However, there are some exceptions to the privity of contract rule, such as where a third party is expressly designated as a beneficiary of the contract or where the contract is intended to benefit a third party. In such cases, the third party may be able to enforce the terms of the contract or may be held liable for any breaches.

### **5. Free Consent**

Free consent is a fundamental principle of contract law and is essential for a contract to be legally binding. Free consent means that both parties to a contract enter into the agreement voluntarily and without any coercion or undue influence.

In other words, free consent implies that the parties have agreed to the terms of the contract without being forced or pressured into doing so. To establish free consent, it is essential that the parties are aware of the terms of the contract, understand the implications of those terms, and have the capacity to enter into the agreement.

If free consent is not present, a contract may be considered void or unenforceable. Examples of situations where free consent may not be present include fraud, misrepresentation, duress, undue influence, and mistake.

Therefore, in order for a contract to be valid, both parties must provide their free consent to the terms of the agreement, and there must not be any factors that would invalidate this consent.

### **6. Quasi Contracts**

Quasi contracts, also known as "implied in law contracts," are legal arrangements that are not explicitly created by the parties involved but are implied by law in order to prevent an injustice. These contracts are a legal fiction created by the courts to impose a contractual relationship between two parties when no actual contract exists.

In a quasi-contract, one party provides goods or services to another party without a pre-existing agreement to do so. In such a situation, the law may imply a contract to prevent one party from unjustly benefiting at the expense of the other party. Quasi contracts are often used to ensure that a person who benefits from another's labor or property provides compensation for that benefit.

For example, if someone mistakenly pays for services or goods that they did not receive, a quasi-contract might be implied to require the provider to repay the mistaken payment. Similarly, if someone provides emergency services to another person who is unconscious or unable to consent, a quasi-contract might be implied to require payment for those services.

Overall, quasi contracts are a way for the legal system to ensure fairness and prevent unjust enrichment, even in situations where no explicit contract exists between parties.

### **7. Duty Mitigate**

"Duty to mitigate" refers to the legal obligation of a person who has suffered harm or loss to take reasonable steps to minimize the extent of the harm or loss. This duty is often imposed on plaintiffs in civil lawsuits, who have a responsibility to mitigate their damages by taking reasonable actions to prevent further harm or loss after the initial injury or harm has occurred.

The duty to mitigate requires a plaintiff to take reasonable steps to reduce the harm or loss caused by the defendant's actions. For example, if someone is injured in a car accident, they have a duty to seek medical treatment and follow the doctor's advice to mitigate the extent of their injuries. Similarly, if someone loses their job due to wrongful termination, they have a duty to actively search for new employment to mitigate their financial losses.

If a plaintiff fails to fulfill their duty to mitigate, the defendant may be able to argue that the plaintiff's damages should be reduced by the amount that could have been avoided through

reasonable mitigation efforts. Therefore, it is important for plaintiffs to take the necessary steps to mitigate their losses in order to maximize their recovery in a lawsuit.

### **8. Lapse of Offer**

A lapse of an offer occurs when the person who received the offer fails to accept or reject it within the specified time frame, or if no time frame is given, within a reasonable amount of time. Once the offer lapses, it is no longer valid, and the person who made the offer is no longer bound by it.

The lapse of an offer can occur in several ways. For example, if the offeror specifies a deadline for accepting the offer and the offeree fails to meet that deadline, the offer lapses. Alternatively, if the offeror specifies that the offer will remain open for a certain period of time, and that time period expires without acceptance, the offer lapses.

It's important to note that a lapse of an offer does not mean that the offer cannot be revived or that negotiations cannot continue. However, any subsequent agreement reached will not be binding unless new consideration is offered by one of the parties.

### **9. Voidable Contracts**

A voidable contract is a type of contract that may be legally unenforceable, meaning that one or both parties have the option to either enforce or rescind the agreement. This type of contract is often created when one party lacks legal capacity or consent to enter into a contract, or when there is some other legal defect in the formation of the agreement.

Voidable contracts can be either affirmed or avoided by the party with the power to do so. If the party chooses to affirm the contract, it becomes enforceable as though it were valid from the beginning. If the party chooses to avoid the contract, it is treated as though it never existed, and the parties are released from their obligations.

Some common examples of voidable contracts include contracts entered into by minors, contracts entered into under duress, contracts entered into based on fraud, and contracts entered into based on mistake. In each of these cases, the party lacking legal capacity or consent has the option to either enforce or rescind the agreement.

### **10. Joint Promisors**

Joint promisors are two or more parties who make a promise to a third party to perform a certain obligation together. In other words, joint promisors are individuals or entities that agree to be responsible for fulfilling the same contractual obligation.

When joint promisors enter into a contract with a third party, they are both equally liable for the fulfillment of the contractual obligation. This means that if one joint promisor fails to fulfill their

part of the obligation, the other joint promisor(s) are still responsible for fulfilling the entire obligation.

For example, if two people sign a lease agreement as joint promisors for an apartment, they are both responsible for paying the rent and any damages caused to the apartment during their lease period. If one of them fails to pay rent or causes damage, the other joint promisor is still liable for fulfilling the entire obligation.

It's important to note that joint promisors are not the same as co-promisors. Co-promisors are parties who make separate promises to a third party to perform a certain obligation. Unlike joint promisors, co-promisors are only responsible for fulfilling their own part of the obligation and are not liable for the other co-promisors' failure to fulfill their obligations.

### **11. Undue Influence**

Undue influence is a legal concept that refers to a situation where one person takes advantage of a position of power or trust over another person to influence them to make a decision that they would not have made otherwise. This can occur in various contexts, including in business, contracts, wills, and relationships.

Undue influence typically involves a situation where the person who is being influenced is vulnerable, such as an elderly or mentally impaired person. The person who exerts undue influence may use various tactics, such as threats, manipulation, or coercion, to achieve their desired outcome.

In many jurisdictions, undue influence is considered a form of fraud, and contracts or agreements that are made under undue influence may be declared void or unenforceable. To prove undue influence, it is generally necessary to show that the person exerting the influence had a position of power over the other person, that they used that power to exert undue pressure, and that the other person's decision was not made freely and voluntarily.

### **12. Specific Relief**

Specific relief is a legal term that refers to a type of remedy that a court can order in a civil lawsuit. It involves the court ordering the defendant to perform a specific act or to refrain from performing a specific act, rather than simply awarding monetary damages to the plaintiff.

Specific relief is often used in cases involving breach of contract or violations of property rights, where monetary damages would not fully compensate the plaintiff. For example, if a contract requires a defendant to deliver a specific piece of property to the plaintiff, but the defendant fails to do so, the plaintiff may seek specific relief by asking the court to order the defendant to deliver the property as required by the contract.

Specific relief can take many forms, depending on the circumstances of the case. For example, it could involve ordering the defendant to perform a specific act, such as transferring title to a piece of property, or to refrain from a specific act, such as continuing to trespass on the plaintiff's land.

Overall, specific relief is a powerful tool that courts can use to enforce legal rights and ensure that parties fulfill their contractual obligations.

### **13. Anticipatory Breach**

An anticipatory breach, also known as an anticipatory repudiation, occurs when one party to a contract declares their intention to not perform their obligations under the contract before the time for performance has arrived. This can occur in various ways, such as through a clear statement of refusal to perform, or through conduct that indicates an unwillingness or inability to fulfill contractual obligations.

Once an anticipatory breach occurs, the other party to the contract has the right to treat the contract as terminated and sue for damages. The non-breaching party is not required to wait until the time for performance has passed to seek legal remedies.

It's important to note that the other party must be certain that the anticipatory breach has occurred before they can treat the contract as terminated. If there is any doubt about the breaching party's intention to perform, the contract remains in effect and both parties must continue to fulfill their obligations.

### **14. Declaratory Decrees**

A declaratory decree, also known as a declaratory judgment, is a legal judgment or court order that declares the rights, duties, or legal relationships of the parties involved in a particular case. It is a legal remedy used to settle disputes where there is no actual controversy, but where there is uncertainty about the legal rights or obligations of the parties.

Declaratory decrees are typically used in cases where one party seeks a declaration from the court that a particular law or regulation is unconstitutional, or where there is a disagreement between parties over the interpretation of a contract or other legal document. The purpose of a declaratory decree is to provide clarity and certainty on legal issues, and to prevent future disputes by establishing the legal rights and obligations of the parties involved.

Declaratory decrees are typically issued by a court of law, and are binding on the parties involved in the case. They can be used as a tool to prevent future litigation and to provide a clear framework for resolving disputes.

## 15. Modes of Breach of Contract

A breach of contract occurs when one party fails to fulfill their obligations under the terms of the contract. There are several modes of breach of contract, including:

- 1. Material breach:** This occurs when one party fails to perform a significant part of the contract or fails to perform a minor part in a way that substantially deprives the other party of the benefits of the contract.
- 2. Minor breach:** This occurs when one party fails to perform a small part of the contract or performs a part of the contract imperfectly, but it does not substantially affect the other party's ability to receive the benefits of the contract.
- 3. Anticipatory breach:** This occurs when one party indicates that they will not be able to fulfill their obligations under the contract before the performance is due.
- 4. Actual breach:** This occurs when one party fails to perform their obligations under the contract on the due date or within the specified timeframe.
- 5. Fundamental breach:** This occurs when one party fails to perform a crucial aspect of the contract, making it impossible for the other party to receive the benefits of the contract.

The type of breach that occurs will determine the legal remedies available to the injured party.

## 16. Remedies of Breach of Contracts

When one party fails to fulfill their obligations under a contract, it is considered a breach of contract. Depending on the type and severity of the breach, there are several remedies available to the non-breaching party. Here are some of the most common remedies for breach of contract:

- 1. Damages:** This is the most common remedy for breach of contract, and it involves the payment of money to the non-breaching party as compensation for the damages caused by the breach. The amount of damages awarded will depend on the type and severity of the breach, as well as the losses incurred by the non-breaching party.
- 2. Specific Performance:** In some cases, the non-breaching party may seek a court order requiring the breaching party to fulfill their obligations under the contract. This is known as specific performance and is typically only available when money damages are inadequate to remedy the breach.
- 3. Rescission:** Rescission is a remedy that allows the non-breaching party to cancel the contract and return to the status quo ante (the state of things before the contract was entered

into). This remedy is typically only available in cases of material breach, where the breach is so severe that it goes to the heart of the contract.

**4. Reformation:** Reformation is a remedy that allows the court to revise or rewrite the contract to better reflect the intentions of the parties. This remedy is typically only available in cases where there was a mutual mistake or misunderstanding that led to the breach.

**5. Liquidated Damages:** Some contracts include a provision that specifies the amount of damages that will be awarded in the event of a breach. This is known as liquidated damages, and it can simplify the process of determining damages in the event of a breach. However, the amount of liquidated damages must be reasonable and not punitive.

It is important to note that the availability of these remedies may vary depending on the specific circumstances of the breach and the terms of the contract. It is always best to consult with a lawyer to determine the best course of action in the event of a breach of contract.

## 17. E Contracts

An e-contract, also known as an electronic contract, is a legally binding agreement between two or more parties that is created, signed, and stored electronically. E-contracts are becoming increasingly common in the digital age, as more business is conducted online and through electronic means.

To be legally binding, e-contracts must meet the same requirements as traditional paper-based contracts. This includes the agreement of all parties involved, a clear and specific offer and acceptance, and a lawful purpose. Additionally, electronic signatures are typically used in e-contracts as a means of verifying the identity of the parties involved and their agreement to the terms.

There are many benefits to using e-contracts, such as reduced paperwork and streamlined processes, increased efficiency and speed, and enhanced security and accuracy. However, it is important to ensure that all legal requirements are met when creating and signing e-contracts, and to have a clear understanding of the terms and obligations outlined in the agreement.

## 18. Standard Form of Contract

In India, the standard form of contract varies depending on the type of contract and the industry in which it is used. Here are some commonly used forms of contracts in India:

**1. Standard form of contract for construction:** The Indian Roads Congress (IRC) has published a standard form of contract for construction of roads and bridges, known as IRC: SP: 53-2014. This contract is widely used in the construction industry for government projects.



**2. Standard form of contract for supply of goods:** The Indian Contract Act, 1872 is the primary legislation governing the supply of goods in India. However, there are no specific standard forms of contract for supply of goods. Typically, the terms and conditions of the contract are negotiated between the buyer and the seller.

**3. Standard form of contract for services:** The Indian Contract Act, 1872 also governs the provision of services in India. However, there are no specific standard forms of contract for services. The terms and conditions of the contract are typically negotiated between the service provider and the service recipient.

**4. Standard form of contract for employment:** The Employment Contracts Act, 1952 governs the employment contracts in India. The contract typically includes terms and conditions such as job responsibilities, working hours, compensation, benefits, termination clauses, etc.

**5. Standard form of contract for lease:** The Transfer of Property Act, 1882 governs the lease agreements in India. The contract typically includes terms and conditions such as rent, duration of lease, maintenance responsibilities, renewal clauses, etc.

It is important to note that while these standard forms of contracts provide a framework for negotiation, they are not exhaustive and can be amended to suit the specific needs of the parties involved in the contract.

## 19. Perpetual Injunctions

A perpetual injunction is a court order that prohibits a party from engaging in a particular activity or behavior indefinitely, until the court decides otherwise. Unlike a temporary injunction, which is issued for a limited period of time, a perpetual injunction has no expiration date.

Perpetual injunctions are commonly used in cases involving intellectual property, such as trademarks, patents, and copyrights, where the court may order a party to stop infringing on the intellectual property rights of another party. They may also be used in cases involving contract disputes, environmental issues, and other legal disputes.

To obtain a perpetual injunction, a party must first file a lawsuit and prove that they have a valid legal claim and that irreparable harm would result if the opposing party were allowed to continue engaging in the activity in question. The court will then decide whether to issue a perpetual injunction based on the evidence presented and the legal arguments made by both parties.

It's worth noting that perpetual injunctions are not always granted and are subject to the discretion of the court. Additionally, even if a perpetual injunction is issued, the court may modify or dissolve it at a later date if circumstances change.

## **20. Appropriation of Payments**

Appropriation of payments refers to the allocation of funds received by a creditor from a debtor to different outstanding debts owed by the debtor. When a debtor owes money to a creditor, they may make payments to settle their debts over time. However, if the debtor has multiple outstanding debts, they may need to indicate which debt they want their payment to be applied to.

If the debtor does not specify how they want their payment to be applied, the creditor may have the right to appropriate the payment in a way that benefits them the most. In most cases, the creditor will apply the payment to the debt with the highest interest rate or the oldest outstanding debt. This is known as the creditor's right of appropriation.

However, in some cases, the debtor may be able to specify how they want their payment to be applied. For example, if a debtor has a credit card with a balance transfer offer, they may want their payment to be applied to the balance transfer debt before any other debts. In this case, the debtor would need to make sure that they specify this when making their payment.

It is important for debtors to understand how their payments are being applied to their outstanding debts. If they have specific preferences for how their payments are applied, they should communicate this with their creditor to ensure that their payments are being allocated correctly.

## **21. Executory Contract**

An executory contract is a legal agreement between two parties that is not yet fully performed or completed. In other words, one or both parties still have obligations to fulfill under the terms of the contract. For example, a lease agreement is an executory contract until the tenant has fully paid rent and vacated the property.

Executory contracts are common in many areas of law, including real estate, business transactions, and employment agreements. They can also arise in bankruptcy proceedings when a debtor has entered into a contract but has not yet fully performed their obligations under the contract.

In general, the parties to an executory contract are bound to fulfill their respective obligations under the terms of the contract. However, if one party fails to perform their obligations, the other party may be entitled to terminate the contract or seek damages for any losses incurred as a result of the breach.

It is important to carefully review and understand the terms of an executory contract before entering into it, and to ensure that both parties are fully aware of their respective obligations and responsibilities.

## **22. Minors Agreement**

A minor is a person who has not yet reached the age of majority, which varies depending on the jurisdiction but is typically either 18 or 21 years old. An agreement entered into by a minor is generally not legally binding, meaning that the minor can void the contract at any time without penalty.

There are some exceptions, however, where a minor's agreement may be considered legally binding. For example, contracts for necessities like food, clothing, and shelter are generally enforceable, as are contracts for education, medical treatment, and employment.

In addition, contracts entered into by a minor who is emancipated, meaning they have been legally declared an adult before reaching the age of majority, are generally enforceable. Similarly, contracts entered into by a minor with the consent and supervision of a parent or guardian may also be enforceable.

It's important to note that minors can still be held liable for any damages they cause, regardless of whether their agreement is legally binding or not.

## **23. Liquidated Damages**

Liquidated damages refer to a predetermined amount of money that parties agree upon to compensate for a breach of contract. The liquidated damages clause is included in a contract to specify the amount of damages that will be payable if one party fails to perform its contractual obligations.

The purpose of liquidated damages is to provide certainty and predictability in the event of a breach of contract, and to avoid the need for parties to go to court to determine the amount of damages. By agreeing in advance on the amount of damages, the parties are able to avoid the uncertainty and expense of litigation.

It is important to note that liquidated damages are different from punitive damages, which are intended to punish the breaching party for its wrongdoing. Liquidated damages, on the other hand, are intended to compensate the non-breaching party for the actual losses suffered as a result of the breach.

To be enforceable, a liquidated damages clause must be a reasonable estimate of the actual damages that would be incurred as a result of the breach. If the amount specified in the clause is found to be excessive or disproportionate to the actual damages suffered, the clause may be unenforceable and the non-breaching party may be limited to recovering only the actual damages suffered.

## **24. Rectification of Instruments**

Rectification of instruments refers to the process of adjusting and correcting any inaccuracies or errors in measuring instruments so that they provide accurate and reliable measurements. This process is essential in various fields such as engineering, physics, and chemistry, where precise measurements are critical for experimentation and analysis.

The rectification process typically involves comparing the readings of the instrument under test to a standard instrument, which has been previously calibrated to provide accurate measurements. Any discrepancies between the two instruments are then identified and corrected by adjusting the settings of the instrument under test.

There are various methods of rectification, depending on the type of instrument being calibrated. Some common methods include adjusting the scale or zero point, correcting for temperature or pressure effects, and adjusting the sensitivity or range of the instrument.

The accuracy of an instrument's calibration is typically expressed as a percentage of its full-scale range. For example, an instrument with a full-scale range of 100 units and an accuracy of  $\pm 1\%$  would be expected to provide readings within  $\pm 1$  unit of the actual value.

In summary, rectification of instruments is an essential process that ensures the accuracy and reliability of measuring instruments. It involves comparing the readings of the instrument under test to a standard instrument and making adjustments to correct any discrepancies.

## **25. Standing tender**

In India, "Standing Tender" refers to a type of procurement process in which a company or organization invites bids from interested vendors for a particular good or service for a specified period. The vendor who is awarded the tender is then expected to supply the good or service to the company or organization for the entire duration of the tender.

In a Standing Tender, the tender notice is issued once, and the vendors submit their bids. The company or organization evaluates the bids and selects the vendor based on various criteria such as price, quality, past performance, and delivery time. The selected vendor is then awarded the tender for a specified period, usually a year or more.

During the term of the Standing Tender, the selected vendor is expected to supply the good or service at the specified price and quality, and the company or organization is obligated to purchase the good or service exclusively from the vendor. This arrangement provides the vendor with a guaranteed source of revenue for the duration of the tender.

Standing Tenders are commonly used by government agencies and public sector companies in India for procuring goods and services. It is a way to ensure transparency, fairness, and

competition in the procurement process, and to provide a level playing field for all vendors who wish to participate.

## **26. Rights of Finder of Lost Goods**

The rights of a finder of lost goods depend on the specific laws and regulations of the jurisdiction in which the goods were found. However, there are some general principles that can be applied.

In most jurisdictions, a finder of lost goods has a duty to take reasonable steps to locate the owner and return the property. If the owner cannot be located, the finder may be entitled to keep the property, but they may be required to report the find to the authorities or comply with other legal requirements before claiming ownership.

In some cases, the finder may be entitled to a reward for returning the property, particularly if the owner has offered one. Additionally, if the property is not claimed within a certain period of time, the finder may be able to claim ownership of the property through a process known as "adverse possession."

It is important to note that taking someone else's property without attempting to return it or following the legal requirements for claiming ownership can be considered theft or other criminal offenses. It is always advisable to consult with a legal professional in the specific jurisdiction where the property was found to understand the rights and obligations of a finder of lost goods.

## **27. Doctrine of Frustration**

The doctrine of frustration is a legal principle that can apply in situations where, after a contract has been formed, unforeseen circumstances arise that make it impossible to perform the contract or would render the performance fundamentally different from what was originally contemplated by the parties.

Under this doctrine, if the circumstances are such that the contract can no longer be performed, the contract may be discharged, and the parties may be released from their obligations. This is because the law recognizes that it would be unjust to require a party to perform a contract that has become impossible to perform due to events that were not within their control.

For the doctrine of frustration to apply, the event that has occurred must be beyond the control of the parties and not reasonably foreseeable at the time the contract was formed. Additionally, the event must not have been caused by one of the parties.

Examples of events that may give rise to frustration of a contract include natural disasters, war, government action, and death or incapacity of a person whose personal performance was essential to the contract.

It is important to note that the doctrine of frustration is a narrow doctrine and will only apply in limited circumstances. If a contract contains a force majeure clause, this will usually govern the parties' rights and obligations in the event of unforeseen circumstances, and the doctrine of frustration may not be relevant.

### **28. Invitation to Offer**

An invitation to offer, also known as an invitation to treat, is a communication made with the intention of receiving offers from other parties. It is not a binding contract, but rather an invitation to negotiate and make an offer. Examples of invitations to offer include advertisements, catalogs, and displays of goods in a store. When a person responds to an invitation to offer with an offer, a contract may be formed if the offer is accepted. It is important to distinguish between an invitation to offer and an offer, as accepting an invitation to offer does not create a legally binding agreement.

### **29. What is an agreement**

An agreement is a mutual understanding or arrangement reached between two or more parties, usually through negotiation or discussion. It involves a promise or a commitment to do or not do something, and it creates legal or moral obligations between the parties involved.

Agreements can take various forms, such as written contracts, verbal agreements, or even a handshake, depending on the nature of the agreement and the parties involved. They can cover a wide range of issues, from business deals and employment contracts to personal relationships and social interactions.

In general, an agreement is considered valid if it meets certain legal requirements, such as the parties involved having the capacity to enter into the agreement, the agreement being based on mutual consent, and the terms of the agreement being legal and enforceable.

### **30. Remote Damages**

Remote damages refer to harm or losses that are incurred by a person or entity that are not directly caused by the actions of another party, but rather result indirectly from the actions of that party. In legal terms, remote damages are also known as consequential damages or indirect damages.

For example, if a company manufactures a faulty product that causes injury to a consumer, the direct damages would include the cost of medical treatment for the injured party. However, the remote damages might include lost wages if the injured person is unable to work, or the cost of hiring someone to perform household tasks that they are now unable to do because of their injuries.

In order to recover remote damages, the injured party typically needs to demonstrate that these losses were a foreseeable consequence of the party's actions, and that the party could have taken steps to avoid causing them. This can be a complex legal issue, and often requires the input of expert witnesses and other evidence to support the injured party's claim.

### 31. Coercion

Coercion refers to the act of using force, threats, or other forms of pressure to make someone do something against their will. It is a form of manipulation that involves using power or authority to control someone's actions or decisions.

Coercion can take many forms, including physical violence, verbal threats, emotional manipulation, and economic pressure. In some cases, coercion may be illegal, such as when it involves physical violence or extortion. However, coercion can also be more subtle and difficult to recognize, such as when it involves emotional manipulation or the use of social influence.

Coercion can have serious negative effects on individuals, including physical harm, emotional trauma, and damage to personal relationships. It is important to recognize and address coercion when it occurs, and to work towards creating a culture of respect and consent in which coercion is not tolerated.

### 32. Specific Tender

In Indian contract law, a tender refers to a process where a party invites offers from other parties for the supply of goods or services. The specific types of tenders recognized in Indian contract law are as follows:

- 1. Open Tender:** In an open tender, anyone interested in supplying the goods or services can participate. The tender is advertised publicly, and interested parties can submit their bids.
- 2. Limited Tender:** In a limited tender, only a select few parties are invited to submit their bids. The tender is not advertised publicly, and the parties are chosen based on their experience or reputation in the industry.
- 3. Global Tender:** A global tender is a type of open tender where the procurement process is open to parties from any country. The tender is advertised internationally, and parties from around the world can submit their bids.
- 4. E-Tender:** An e-tender is a tender that is conducted online. The entire process, from inviting bids to selecting the winner, is conducted through electronic means.
- 5. Two-Stage Tender:** In a two-stage tender, the initial stage involves inviting technical proposals from interested parties. Based on the technical proposals, the parties shortlisted are invited to submit their financial bids in the second stage.

**6. Reverse Auction:** In a reverse auction, the party requiring the goods or services invites bids from suppliers. The suppliers bid against each other, and the lowest bidder is selected.

It is important to note that the specific types of tenders recognized in Indian contract law may vary based on the context and industry in which they are used.

### **33. Contingent Contract**

A contingent contract is a type of agreement in which the performance of one or both parties is contingent upon the occurrence of a certain event. In other words, the contract is only binding if a specific condition or set of conditions is met.

For example, if you were to sign a contract with a moving company that states they will transport your belongings to your new home, but only if your new home is ready to move into on a certain date, then that would be a contingent contract. The moving company's performance is contingent upon your new home being ready on the specified date.

Contingent contracts are often used in business transactions, such as when a company agrees to purchase a certain amount of goods from a supplier, but only if the goods meet certain quality standards. They can also be used in legal agreements, such as when parties agree to settle a lawsuit, but only if a certain condition is met, such as the outcome of an appeal.

### **34. Fraud**

Fraud refers to the intentional deception or misrepresentation made by an individual or group in order to gain an unfair advantage or benefit. It can take many forms, such as identity theft, embezzlement, credit card fraud, insurance fraud, and many others.

Fraud is considered a criminal offense in most countries and can result in serious legal consequences, including fines, imprisonment, and damage to one's reputation. Many organizations have measures in place to prevent fraud, such as fraud detection software, background checks, and employee training programs.

If you suspect that you are a victim of fraud or have witnessed fraudulent activity, it is important to report it to the appropriate authorities immediately. This can help prevent further harm and protect others from falling victim to the same scheme.

### **35. Offer and Invitation to Treat**

Offer and invitation to treat are two legal concepts that are often used in contract law. An offer is a proposal made by one party to another, which, if accepted, creates a legally binding contract between the two parties. On the other hand, an invitation to treat is an invitation to others to make an offer to enter into a contract.



An offer is a definite and specific proposal made by one party to another. It is an expression of willingness to enter into a contract on certain terms, which, if accepted, creates a legally binding contract between the parties. An offer may be made in writing, orally, or by conduct, but it must be clear and unequivocal.

An invitation to treat, on the other hand, is an invitation to others to make an offer to enter into a contract. It is not an offer, but an invitation to others to make an offer. Examples of an invitation to treat include advertisements, price lists, and catalogs. When a person responds to an invitation to treat by making an offer, it is the offer that creates the contract, not the invitation to treat.

In summary, an offer is a specific and definite proposal that creates a legally binding contract when accepted, while an invitation to treat is an invitation to others to make an offer to enter into a contract.

### **36. Revocation of Acceptance**

Revocation of acceptance refers to the act of withdrawing or canceling one's acceptance of an offer before the contract has been formed. In other words, it is a legal right that allows a party to retract their acceptance of an offer if they change their mind or if certain conditions are not met.

The right to revoke acceptance generally arises when the offeror has not yet received notice of the acceptance or when the parties have not yet formed a binding contract. Once a binding contract has been formed, it may be more difficult to revoke acceptance, and the party seeking to withdraw may be liable for breach of contract.

It is important to note that the right to revoke acceptance may be subject to certain limitations and requirements, such as the requirement to provide notice of revocation to the other party within a certain time frame or before the contract is formed.

In general, if you are considering revoking your acceptance of an offer, you should consult with a qualified legal professional to ensure that you understand your rights and obligations under the law.

### **37. Death Promisor**

In Indian contract law, a "death promisor" refers to a person who promises to perform a contractual obligation, but dies before fulfilling it. The term "death promisor" is often used interchangeably with "promisor", "obligor", or "debtor".

Under Indian contract law, the death of a promisor does not automatically discharge their contractual obligations. Instead, the rights and obligations of the deceased promisor are

transferred to their legal representatives or heirs. This means that the legal representatives or heirs of the deceased promisor become liable for the performance of the contractual obligation.

However, if the performance of the contractual obligation is personal in nature, such as providing personal services or singing at an event, the obligation may be discharged by the death of the promisor. In such cases, the legal representatives or heirs of the deceased promisor are not required to perform the obligation.

It is important to note that the terms of the contract, as well as any relevant laws, will determine the extent of the liability of the legal representatives or heirs of the deceased promisor. Therefore, it is essential to seek legal advice in case of a death promisor situation.

### **38. Essentials of a Valid Contract**

A valid contract is an agreement between two or more parties that creates legally binding obligations. In order for a contract to be considered valid, it must meet certain requirements, which are:

- 1. Offer:** There must be a clear and definite offer made by one party to another.
- 2. Acceptance:** The offer must be accepted by the other party without any conditions or modifications.
- 3. Consideration:** There must be some form of consideration or payment exchanged between the parties, such as money, goods, or services.
- 4. Capacity:** Both parties must have the legal capacity to enter into a contract. This means they must be of legal age, sound mind, and not under duress or coercion.
- 5. Intent:** Both parties must have the intention to create a legally binding agreement.
- 6. Legal purpose:** The contract must be for a legal purpose and not against public policy or prohibited by law.
- 7. Consent:** Both parties must freely and voluntarily consent to the terms of the contract, without any undue influence or misrepresentation.

If all of these requirements are met, then the contract is considered valid and enforceable.

### **39. Illegal Offer**

In contract law, an illegal offer refers to an offer that proposes a transaction or action that violates the law or public policy. An illegal offer cannot be enforced by the courts because it is against the law or public policy.

Examples of illegal offers include:

1. Offering to pay someone to commit a crime or engage in an illegal activity.
2. Offering to sell illegal drugs or contraband.
3. Offering to engage in a transaction that violates antitrust or competition laws.
4. Offering to engage in a transaction that violates environmental or safety regulations.
5. Offering to engage in a transaction that violates labor or employment laws.

If an offer is found to be illegal, the contract formed as a result of that offer will also be considered illegal and unenforceable. It's important to ensure that any offers made in a contract are legal and enforceable under the law.

### **40. Counter Offer**

In contract law, a counteroffer is a response by an offeree to an offer that modifies the terms of the original offer. It essentially rejects the original offer and replaces it with a new offer.

When a counteroffer is made, it terminates the original offer, and the offeror is no longer bound by the original terms. Instead, the offeror has the option to accept or reject the counteroffer. If the offeror accepts the counteroffer, a new contract is formed based on the terms of the counteroffer.

It's important to note that a counteroffer also requires acceptance by the original offeror. Until the original offeror accepts the counteroffer, there is no contract between the parties. Additionally, any subsequent counteroffers made by either party will similarly terminate the previous offers, unless otherwise agreed upon by both parties.

Overall, a counteroffer allows parties to negotiate and come to an agreement on the terms of a contract. It's a common and important part of contract law, and can help ensure that both parties are satisfied with the final terms of the agreement.

### **41. Temporary Injunction**

A temporary injunction is a court order that requires a party to do or refrain from doing a specific action for a limited period of time, typically until the court can hold a full hearing on the matter. It is a provisional remedy that is granted when there is a need to prevent irreparable harm or maintain the status quo until a final judgment can be rendered.

Temporary injunctions are often requested in civil lawsuits, particularly in cases involving breach of contract, intellectual property disputes, or violations of non-compete agreements. They may be granted without notice to the other party in certain circumstances, such as when immediate and irreparable harm is likely to occur.

To obtain a temporary injunction, a party must typically file a motion or petition with the court and provide evidence showing that the requested injunction is necessary to prevent harm or maintain the status quo. The court will then evaluate the evidence and decide whether to grant the injunction. If granted, the temporary injunction will remain in effect until the court holds a full hearing on the matter and renders a final judgment.

#### **42. Provisional Acceptance**

Provisional acceptance refers to a conditional acceptance of a person or an application, which is subject to certain requirements being met. It is often used in academic and professional settings, such as university admissions or job offers.

For example, a student may receive provisional acceptance to a university pending receipt of their final grades or completion of a required course. Similarly, a job candidate may receive provisional acceptance pending the outcome of a background check or drug test.

In both cases, the acceptance is not considered final until the conditions are met, and the person has received formal notification of their acceptance. It's important to note that if the conditions are not met, the provisional acceptance may be revoked.

Overall, provisional acceptance provides a way for institutions to assess the qualifications of candidates while allowing for some flexibility in the acceptance process.

#### **43. Injunctions**

In contract law, an injunction is a court order that requires a party to either do or not do a particular action. Injunctions are typically used to enforce a party's contractual rights or prevent a party from breaching its contractual obligations.

There are two types of injunctions that may be granted in contract law: a mandatory injunction and a prohibitory injunction.

A mandatory injunction requires a party to take a particular action, such as fulfilling its contractual obligations. For example, if a party has agreed to deliver goods to another party under a contract, but fails to do so, the other party may seek a mandatory injunction to require the delivery of the goods.

A prohibitory injunction, on the other hand, prohibits a party from taking a particular action. For example, if a party has agreed not to disclose confidential information under a contract, but

threatens to do so, the other party may seek a prohibitory injunction to prevent the disclosure of the information.

Injunctions can be powerful tools for enforcing contractual rights and preventing breaches, but they are not always granted. The court will consider various factors, including the likelihood of success on the merits of the underlying contractual claim, the harm that would be suffered by the party seeking the injunction if it is not granted, and the harm that would be suffered by the party against whom the injunction is sought if it is granted.

#### **44. Reciprocal Promises**

Reciprocal promises refer to a situation where two parties make a promise to each other, where each promise is contingent upon the other party fulfilling their promise. In other words, the promises made by each party are interdependent and neither party is bound by their promise until the other party fulfills their obligation.

For example, suppose that Alice promises to deliver a certain product to Bob by a certain date, and Bob promises to pay Alice a certain amount of money upon receiving the product. In this case, Alice's promise to deliver the product is contingent upon Bob's promise to pay for it, and Bob's promise to pay is contingent upon Alice's promise to deliver the product. If either party fails to fulfill their promise, the other party is no longer bound by their promise.

Reciprocal promises are a common feature of many types of contracts, and they can help to ensure that both parties fulfill their obligations in a timely and satisfactory manner. However, it is important to carefully consider the terms of any agreement involving reciprocal promises to ensure that both parties fully understand their obligations and that the agreement is fair and equitable for both parties.

#### **45. Minor as a shareholder**

In contract law, a shareholder is a person who owns a portion of a company's stock. A shareholder's rights and obligations are typically defined by the company's articles of incorporation, bylaws, and applicable laws.

As a minor, a shareholder generally has the same rights as any other shareholder, but may have limited capacity to enter into contracts. In most jurisdictions, minors are considered to lack the legal capacity to enter into contracts, meaning that any contract they enter into may be voidable or unenforceable.

However, in the context of share ownership, a minor shareholder's ownership of shares is usually not considered a contract, but rather a property right. This means that a minor can generally own shares in a company, but may have limited ability to exercise certain rights associated with share ownership, such as voting rights.

It is important to note that the specific rights and obligations of a minor shareholder may vary depending on the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction in which the company is incorporated and the terms of the company's governing documents. It is advisable for a minor shareholder to seek legal advice to better understand their rights and obligations.

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## Important Essay Questions & Answers

### 1. “An agreement restraint from the Trade of Marriage is void”- Discuss.

An agreement that restrains trade or marriage is generally considered void as it is against public policy. The reason for this is that such agreements tend to limit an individual's freedom of choice and movement, and can be viewed as a form of oppression or coercion.

Traditionally, the law has recognized that individuals have a right to marry whomever they choose, and any agreement that seeks to limit this right would be considered against public policy. For example, a prenuptial agreement that prohibits one of the parties from marrying anyone else in the event of divorce would be unenforceable.

Similarly, agreements that seek to restrain trade or competition are generally viewed as anticompetitive and harmful to the economy. These agreements can limit an individual's ability to work in their chosen profession or industry, and can also limit consumer choice and increase prices. For example, a non-compete agreement that prevents an employee from working for a competitor for a certain period of time after leaving their current job may be unenforceable if it is found to be overly broad or unreasonable.

It is important to note that there are some circumstances where agreements that restrain trade or marriage may be deemed enforceable. For example, a non-compete agreement that is narrowly tailored to protect a company's legitimate business interests and is reasonable in scope and duration may be enforced. Similarly, a prenuptial agreement that sets forth reasonable conditions for the division of property in the event of divorce may be enforceable.

In summary, while agreements that restrain trade or marriage are generally considered void, there are exceptions where such agreements may be enforceable under certain circumstances. However, it is important to ensure that any such agreement is reasonable in scope and does not unduly restrict an individual's freedom of choice or movement.

### 2. “Acceptance to an offer what a lighted match is to train of Gun – Powder”. Explain

The statement "Acceptance to an offer what a lighted match is to train of gunpowder" means that accepting an offer can trigger a series of events that can have significant consequences, much like how lighting a match can ignite a train of gunpowder, causing a powerful explosion. When someone accepts an offer, they are committing to a course of action that can have far-reaching effects, and they may not be able to undo the consequences of that decision.

For example, imagine a person who has been offered a job at a new company. The job comes with a higher salary and better benefits than their current position, but it also requires them to move to a new city. The person is excited about the opportunity and accepts the job offer without much thought. However, once they start working at the new company, they realize that

the job is much more demanding than they anticipated, and they struggle to balance their work and personal life. They also miss their family and friends back home and feel isolated in the new city.

As a result, the person becomes unhappy with their decision to accept the job offer and starts to regret their choice. However, by this point, it is too late to go back on their decision, and they must live with the consequences of their choice. This is like lighting a match that ignites a train of gunpowder, causing a powerful explosion that cannot be undone.

Another example could be a person who accepts a loan offer from a bank without reading the terms and conditions carefully. The loan comes with a high-interest rate and hidden fees that the person was not aware of. As a result, they struggle to make the monthly payments and fall into debt. This decision to accept the loan offer is like lighting a match that sets off a chain reaction of financial problems, leading to an explosion of debt that can be difficult to escape from.

In both of these examples, accepting an offer without careful consideration can have significant consequences, much like lighting a match that sets off a chain reaction. It is important for people to take the time to think through their decisions and weigh the potential risks and benefits before committing to a course of action. By doing so, they can avoid making choices that may lead to unintended and undesirable consequences.

**3. “ A stranger to consideration may sue on the contract but not a stranger to the contract. Discuss.**

The principle of privity of contract is a fundamental concept in contract law that governs the rights and obligations of parties to a contract. It states that only those who are party to a contract can enforce or be bound by its terms. This means that third parties, or strangers to the contract, generally have no rights under the contract and cannot enforce its terms. However, there are some exceptions to this principle, which we will discuss in this essay.

To begin with, it is important to understand what is meant by a "stranger to the contract." This refers to any individual or entity who is not a party to the contract, and who has not provided any consideration in exchange for the promises made in the contract. In other words, a stranger to the contract is someone who has no direct connection to the agreement made between the contracting parties.

Under the principle of privity of contract, a stranger to the contract cannot sue to enforce any of the terms of the contract, as they are not bound by the contract nor do they have any rights under it. This means that if a contract is made between two parties, and one of them fails to fulfill their obligations under the contract, a stranger to the contract cannot sue to enforce the agreement. For example, if a homeowner contracts with a builder to construct a new home, and the builder fails to complete the project, a neighbor who has no connection to the contract cannot sue the builder to enforce the agreement.



However, there are some exceptions to this general rule. One such exception is the doctrine of collateral contracts. This doctrine applies where a third party has entered into a separate contract with one of the parties to the original contract, which is designed to induce the other party to enter into the original contract. In this scenario, the third party is not a stranger to the contract, as they have provided consideration in the form of the collateral contract. For example, if a bank agrees to provide financing for a construction project on the condition that a third party guarantees the loan, and the third party provides that guarantee, they may be able to enforce the original contract if the builder fails to complete the project.

Another exception to the principle of privity of contract is the doctrine of third-party beneficiaries. This doctrine allows a third party to enforce a contract if the contract was made for their benefit, even if they are not a party to the contract. For example, if a parent contracts with a school to provide education to their child, the child may be able to enforce the contract if the school fails to provide the agreed-upon education.

In addition, the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 provides for a further exception to the principle of privity of contract. Under this act, a third party may be able to enforce a contract if the contract expressly provides for this. For example, if a contract between a buyer and a seller includes a clause stating that a specific third party may enforce the contract, that third party may be able to do so.

It is important to note that the exceptions to the principle of privity of contract are limited, and the general rule that only parties to a contract can enforce or be bound by its terms remains the norm. The exceptions are designed to ensure that justice is served in situations where a third party has a legitimate interest in the performance of the contract. However, they are not intended to undermine the fundamental principle of privity of contract.

In conclusion, while a stranger to the contract may be able to sue on the contract in certain limited circumstances, the principle of privity of contract remains a fundamental concept in contract law. This principle ensures that only parties to a contract can enforce or be bound by its terms, and it provides a clear framework for the formation and interpretation of contracts.

#### **4. Who is competent to contract under the Indian contract Act?**

Under the Indian Contract Act, 1872, only certain individuals are deemed competent to enter into a valid contract. The Act outlines specific criteria that must be met for a person to be considered competent to contract. In this article, we will discuss these criteria in detail.

Section 11 of the Indian Contract Act defines the competency of a person to enter into a contract. It states that every person is competent to contract who is of the age of majority, of sound mind, and not disqualified from contracting by any law to which they are subject.

**1. Age of Majority:** The age of majority in India is 18 years. Any person who has attained this age is deemed to be competent to enter into a contract. However, minors, i.e., persons below

the age of 18 years, are not competent to contract. Any contract entered into by a minor is considered voidable at the option of the minor. This means that the minor can choose to enforce or reject the contract upon attaining the age of majority.

**2. Sound Mind:** A person must also be of sound mind to be competent to contract. This means that they should be capable of understanding the nature and consequences of the contract they are entering into. Any person who is of unsound mind, such as a person who is insane, delusional, or mentally unstable, is not competent to contract.

**3. Disqualified by law:** A person may also be disqualified from contracting due to specific laws to which they are subject. For example, a person who has been declared bankrupt or has been disqualified from entering into a contract by a court of law is not competent to contract.

Apart from the above criteria, there are some other considerations that must be taken into account when determining the competency of a person to contract. These include:

**1. Coercion:** If a person is forced to enter into a contract through coercion or undue influence, the contract is considered voidable at the option of the coerced party.

**2. Fraud:** If a party to a contract enters into it based on false or misleading information provided by the other party, the contract is considered voidable at the option of the deceived party.

**3. Mistake:** If both parties to a contract enter into it based on a mistake of fact, the contract may be considered voidable.

In conclusion, the Indian Contract Act outlines specific criteria that must be met for a person to be deemed competent to contract. These criteria include being of the age of majority, of sound mind, and not disqualified from contracting by any law to which they are subject. It is essential to consider these criteria carefully when entering into a contract to ensure that the contract is legally binding and enforceable.

## **5. Explain Grounds for granting injunctions and classify the forms of injunctions.**

An injunction is a legal remedy that is granted by a court to prevent a party from engaging in certain conduct or to require a party to perform a specific act. The grounds for granting injunctions typically involve a finding of irreparable harm or the likelihood of irreparable harm to the plaintiff if the conduct or act is not enjoined.

Some of the common grounds for granting injunctions include:

**1. Imminent harm:** If a party can demonstrate that they are likely to suffer irreparable harm unless the court grants an injunction, the court may issue one. For example, if a property owner can show that a neighbor is about to cut down a tree that will harm their property, they may be granted an injunction to prevent the neighbor from doing so.

**2. Violation of legal rights:** If a party can demonstrate that their legal rights have been violated or are about to be violated, the court may issue an injunction. For example, if a party can show that their trademark is being infringed upon, they may be granted an injunction to prevent the infringing party from using the trademark.

**3. Breach of contract:** If a party can show that the other party has breached a contract and that they will suffer irreparable harm as a result, the court may issue an injunction to prevent the breach or require specific performance of the contract.

**4. Public interest:** In some cases, the court may issue an injunction for the public interest, such as to prevent environmental harm or to protect public health.

In terms of forms of injunctions, they can be classified into four main categories:

**1. Temporary restraining order (TRO):** A TRO is a type of injunction that is granted for a short period of time (usually a few days) to prevent immediate harm while the court considers a request for a preliminary injunction.

**2. Preliminary injunction:** A preliminary injunction is granted for a longer period of time (usually several months) while the court considers a request for a permanent injunction. It is intended to maintain the status quo while the case is being decided.

**3. Permanent injunction:** A permanent injunction is a final order that is granted at the end of a case. It prohibits a party from engaging in certain conduct or requires a party to perform a specific act.

**4. Mandatory injunction:** A mandatory injunction is an order that requires a party to perform a specific act, rather than simply prohibiting them from engaging in certain conduct.

**6. Explain the meaning and nature of Quasi contracts. Is such contract recognized under the Indian Contract Act and if so, to what extent.**

A quasi-contract is a legal concept that allows for the enforcement of obligations that are not based on a formal agreement between two parties. These obligations arise out of the conduct of the parties and the circumstances of the situation, rather than from a specific contractual arrangement.

In other words, a quasi-contract is an obligation that is imposed by law to prevent one party from unjustly benefiting at the expense of another party. Quasi-contracts are not true contracts, but rather legal fictions that are created by the courts in order to provide a remedy in situations where one party would otherwise be unjustly enriched.

Under Indian Contract Act, quasi-contracts are recognized as "certain relations resembling those created by contracts". The concept of quasi-contracts is enshrined in Section 68 to Section 72 of the Indian Contract Act.

The Indian Contract Act recognizes certain types of quasi-contracts, including:

**1. Supply of Necessaries (Section 68):** This refers to the situation where one person supplies necessaries to another person who is incapable of entering into a contract. The person supplying the necessaries is entitled to be reimbursed by the person to whom the necessaries were supplied.

**2. Payment by mistake or coercion (Section 72):** This refers to the situation where a person pays another person by mistake or under coercion. The person who received the payment is bound to repay the amount.

**3. Finder of lost goods (Section 71):** This refers to the situation where a person finds lost goods belonging to another person and takes possession of them. The finder of the goods is bound to return the goods to the rightful owner.

In summary, quasi-contracts are recognized under the Indian Contract Act and provide a legal remedy in situations where one party would otherwise be unjustly enriched at the expense of another party.

#### **7. Define formations of 'E' contracts? Explain the Authentication of 'E' contract.**

An 'E' contract is a contract that is formed and executed electronically, without the need for paper documents or physical signatures. Here are some common formations of 'E' contracts:

**1. Clickwrap Agreements:** These are agreements where users are required to click on an "I agree" button before they can use a particular software, application, or website. The user is deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions of the agreement by clicking the button.

**2. Website Agreements:** These are agreements that are presented to users when they visit a website. They usually include terms and conditions, privacy policies, and other legal agreements.

**3. Email Agreements:** These are agreements that are entered into via email. The parties may exchange emails that set out the terms of the agreement, and they may indicate their acceptance of those terms by replying to the email with an affirmative statement.

**4. Electronic Signatures:** These are digital signatures that are used to sign contracts electronically. They may be created using various methods, such as typing a name into a signature box, using a stylus on a touchscreen device, or using a cryptographic method to create a unique digital signature.

Authentication of an 'E' contract refers to the process of verifying the identity of the parties involved and ensuring that they have agreed to the terms of the contract. Here are some methods of authentication:

**1. Digital Signatures:** As mentioned earlier, digital signatures can be used to authenticate 'E' contracts. These signatures are created using public key cryptography and can be verified using a corresponding private key.

**2. Email Confirmation:** Parties can confirm their agreement to the terms of the contract via email. The email may contain a link to the contract, which the parties can click to confirm their agreement.

**3. IP Address Tracking:** The parties' IP addresses can be tracked to verify that they accessed and agreed to the terms of the contract.

**4. Multi-factor Authentication:** This involves using more than one method of authentication to verify the parties' identities, such as a password and a biometric factor like a fingerprint or facial recognition.

#### **8. Distinguish between Rectification, Rescission and cancellation of instrument.**

Rectification, rescission, and cancellation are legal terms used in relation to documents or instruments. Here is a brief overview of the three terms and how they differ:

**1. Rectification:** Rectification is the process of correcting an error in a legal document or instrument. The error may be typographical, clerical, or a mistake in the substance of the agreement. The purpose of rectification is to ensure that the document reflects the true intention of the parties. Rectification may be done by mutual agreement of the parties or by a court order.

**2. Rescission:** Rescission is the process of canceling a contract or agreement because of a material breach by one of the parties. It is usually done when one party fails to fulfill their obligations under the contract, which can make the contract invalid or voidable. Rescission typically allows the parties to be put back in the same position they were in before the contract was signed.

**3. Cancellation:** Cancellation is the process of terminating or nullifying a contract or agreement. It may be done by mutual agreement of the parties or by a court order. Cancellation may occur due to a breach of contract, the expiration of the contract, or other reasons. The effect of cancellation is to release both parties from their obligations under the contract.

In summary, rectification corrects errors in a legal document or instrument, rescission cancels a contract due to a breach by one of the parties, and cancellation terminates or nullifies a contract for various reasons.

**9. All contracts are agreements but all agreements are not contracts. Discuss with relevant case laws.**

The statement "all contracts are agreements but all agreements are not contracts" is a well-established legal principle. An agreement is a broader term that refers to any understanding or arrangement between two or more parties, while a contract is a specific type of agreement that is legally binding and enforceable.

To illustrate this principle, let's consider the following examples:

**Example 1:** A and B agree to meet at a coffee shop for a chat. This is an agreement, but it is not a contract as it does not meet the requirements for a legally binding agreement.

**Example 2:** A hires B to paint their house, and they agree on the price and timeline for the work. This is an agreement, but it is also a contract as it meets the legal requirements for a binding agreement, such as offer, acceptance, consideration, and intention to create legal relations.

To further illustrate the difference between an agreement and a contract, let's look at some relevant case laws:

**1. Balfour v Balfour (1919):** In this case, a husband promised to pay his wife maintenance while he was away on work, but he later failed to do so. The court held that the agreement between the husband and wife was not a contract as there was no intention to create legal relations, and the agreement was a domestic arrangement.

**2. Carlill v Carbolic Smoke Ball Co (1893):** In this case, a company offered a reward to anyone who used their smokeball product and still contracted the flu. A customer accepted the offer and contracted the flu, but the company refused to pay the reward. The court held that there was a valid contract between the customer and the company as the offer was clear, and the customer had provided consideration by using the smokeball product.

These cases highlight the importance of intention to create legal relations and consideration in determining whether an agreement is a contract or not.

In conclusion, while all contracts are agreements, not all agreements are contracts. A contract must meet certain legal requirements to be binding and enforceable, including offer, acceptance, consideration, intention to create legal relations, and certainty of terms.

**10. Explain the principles governing communication of offer, acceptance and revocation of offer and acceptance by post.**

The communication of an offer and acceptance in the context of a contract follows certain principles. These principles are governed by common law and are based on the understanding

that for a contract to be formed, there must be a meeting of the minds between the parties involved.

**1. Offer:** An offer is a proposal made by one party to another party expressing the intention to enter into a contract. The offer should be clear, definite, and communicated to the offeree. An offer can be revoked at any time before acceptance.

**2. Acceptance:** Acceptance is the unconditional agreement by the offeree to the terms of the offer. Acceptance must be communicated to the offeror, and the method of communication must be in accordance with the terms of the offer.

**3. Revocation:** A revocation is the act of taking back or withdrawing an offer before it is accepted. A revocation is effective when it is communicated to the offeree.

**4. Communication of Offer and Acceptance:** The general rule is that an offer and acceptance must be communicated to be effective. The communication of the offer and acceptance can be made by any method that is reasonable under the circumstances, including in person, by phone, email, or postal mail.

**5. Acceptance by Post:** When acceptance is communicated by post, it is effective when it is posted, even if it is lost in transit or never received by the offeror. This is known as the postal rule, which states that acceptance is effective upon posting unless the offeror specifies a different method of acceptance.

**6. Revocation by Post:** A revocation sent by post is effective only when it is received by the offeree. The postal rule does not apply to revocation, as it would be unfair to allow an offeror to revoke an offer after the offeree has posted an acceptance but before it is received.

In summary, the principles governing communication of offer, acceptance, and revocation are based on the principles of offer, acceptance, and consideration. The communication method used must be reasonable, and when an acceptance is communicated by post, it is effective upon posting. A revocation sent by post is effective only upon receipt.

**11. "A contract without consideration or unlawful consideration is void". Explain.**

Consideration is an essential element of a contract. It refers to the exchange of something of value between the parties to the agreement. In general, consideration is the price paid by one party to the other in exchange for the promise or performance of the other party. Without consideration, there is no binding contract.

If a contract lacks consideration, it is considered void or unenforceable. This means that neither party can enforce the terms of the agreement in court. For example, if Party A promises to give Party B a car without receiving anything in return, the contract is considered void because there is no consideration.

Similarly, if a contract has unlawful consideration, it is also considered void. Unlawful consideration means that the exchange of value between the parties is either illegal or against public policy. For example, if Party A promises to pay Party B to commit a crime, the contract is void because the consideration is illegal.

In conclusion, consideration is a necessary component of a contract, and a contract without consideration or with unlawful consideration is void and unenforceable.

## **12. When can you say the consent of the contraction party is free?**

Free consent of contracting parties refers to the agreement or mutual understanding between parties to enter into a contract without any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation, mistake, or other factors that could invalidate their consent. In other words, both parties must willingly and voluntarily agree to the terms of the contract.

Here are some situations where the consent of contracting parties can be considered free:

- 1. Both parties are competent to contract:** Both parties must be of sound mind and legal age to enter into a contract.
- 2. No coercion:** Neither party should be subjected to any form of coercion, pressure, or threat to enter into the contract.
- 3. No undue influence:** Neither party should be under the undue influence of the other party, such as when one party has an authoritative position over the other and uses that position to influence the other's decision.
- 4. No fraud or misrepresentation:** Neither party should be misled or deceived into entering into the contract due to fraud or misrepresentation.
- 5. No mistake:** Both parties must have a clear understanding of the terms and conditions of the contract, and there should be no mistake or misunderstanding about the nature of the agreement.

In summary, free consent of contracting parties exists when both parties enter into the contract with full knowledge of the terms and conditions, without any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation, or mistake.



### **13. What is Specific Relief? What are the specific reliefs available under the Specific Relief Act, 1963?**

Specific Relief is a legal remedy that aims to provide a person with a specific or definite act to be done or performed, instead of monetary compensation, to enforce a legal right. The Specific Relief Act, 1963 governs this legal remedy in India.

Under the Specific Relief Act, 1963, the following specific reliefs are available:

- 1. Recovery of Possession:** A person who has been wrongfully dispossessed of immovable property can seek a court order for the recovery of possession of the property.
- 2. Specific Performance of Contracts:** When a party to a contract fails to perform a specific obligation, the other party can file a suit for specific performance, i.e. compel the defaulting party to perform their obligations under the contract.
- 3. Rectification of Instruments:** If there is an error in any instrument, such as a deed or contract, a person can apply to the court to rectify the error.
- 4. Rescission of Contracts:** When a contract is entered into by coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation, or mistake, the affected party can seek to have the contract rescinded or canceled.
- 5. Injunctions:** An injunction is a court order that restrains a person from doing or continuing to do a certain act. It may be temporary (interim) or perpetual (permanent), and can be either prohibitory or mandatory.
- 6. Declaratory Decrees:** A declaratory decree is a court order that declares the rights of the parties to a dispute. It does not provide any relief but clarifies the legal position of the parties.

Overall, the Specific Relief Act, 1963 provides for a range of specific reliefs that can be availed by a person seeking to enforce their legal rights.

### **14. What are the various modes of discharge of a contract under the Contract Act?**

The Indian Contract Act provides for various modes of discharge of a contract, which are:

- 1. Performance:** The most common mode of discharge of a contract is through performance. A contract is said to be discharged when both the parties to the contract fulfill their respective obligations under the contract.

**2. Agreement:** When both the parties to a contract agree to discharge the contract, it is known as discharge by agreement. This can be done either by mutual consent or by a subsequent agreement.

**3. Breach:** When one of the parties to a contract fails to perform their obligations under the contract, it is known as a breach of contract. The innocent party has the right to terminate the contract and claim damages.

**4. Impossibility of Performance:** When the performance of a contract becomes impossible due to an unforeseen event or circumstances beyond the control of either party, it is known as impossibility of performance.

**5. Lapse of time:** When a contract is for a specified period of time, it comes to an end on the expiry of that period. This is known as discharge by lapse of time.

**6. Operation of Law:** A contract may be discharged by operation of law due to the death or insolvency of one of the parties or due to the destruction of the subject matter of the contract.

**7. Rescission:** Rescission is the cancellation of a contract by mutual agreement of the parties, usually due to some defect or mistake in the contract.

**8. Novation:** Novation is the substitution of a new contract for an existing one, with the intention of discharging the existing contract.

**9. Alteration:** If a material alteration is made to the terms of a contract without the consent of all parties, the contract is discharged.

**15. Explain the theory of fundamental breach of contract with some examples.**

The theory of fundamental breach of contract is a legal concept that refers to a significant or essential violation of a contractual obligation by one party. In such a scenario, the non-breaching party may have the right to terminate the contract, seek damages or pursue other legal remedies.

In general, a fundamental breach of contract occurs when a party fails to fulfill a core aspect of the contract that goes to the heart of the agreement. This type of breach is different from a minor or incidental breach, which does not significantly affect the overall agreement.

Here are some examples of fundamental breaches of contract:

**1. Failure to deliver goods or services:** If a party fails to deliver the goods or services as promised in the contract, it may be considered a fundamental breach of contract. For example, if a contractor fails to complete a construction project, or a supplier fails to deliver raw materials on time, this could constitute a fundamental breach.

**2. Non-payment:** If one party fails to make payments as required by the contract, it could be considered a fundamental breach. For example, if a customer fails to pay a vendor for goods or services rendered, the vendor may be able to terminate the contract and seek legal remedies.

**3. Misrepresentation:** If a party makes false or misleading statements that induce the other party to enter into the contract, it could be considered a fundamental breach. For example, if a seller misrepresents the quality of a product, or a contractor misrepresents their level of expertise, this could constitute a fundamental breach.

**4. Breach of confidentiality:** If one party breaches a confidentiality clause in the contract, it could be considered a fundamental breach. For example, if an employee leaks confidential information to a competitor, this could constitute a fundamental breach of their employment contract.

In summary, a fundamental breach of contract occurs when one party fails to fulfill a core aspect of the contract, resulting in significant harm or loss to the other party. The non-breaching party may have the right to terminate the contract, seek damages, or pursue other legal remedies in such cases.

#### **16. Explain the Doctrine of frustration and also discuss the limitations to it.**

The Doctrine of Frustration is a legal principle that applies when an unforeseen event occurs after the formation of a contract that makes it impossible to fulfill the terms of the contract. Under this doctrine, the parties to the contract are excused from their obligations, and the contract is considered to be discharged or terminated.

In other words, frustration occurs when an unforeseen event or circumstance, such as war, natural disaster, or a change in the law, renders the contract impossible to perform. When this happens, the parties are released from their contractual obligations, and the contract is considered to be at an end.

The doctrine of frustration is based on the principle that the law should not require the parties to perform the impossible. However, the doctrine is subject to certain limitations, including:

**1. Foreseeability:** The event that causes frustration must be unforeseeable at the time of the contract's formation. If the event could have been reasonably foreseen, the doctrine of frustration will not apply.

**2. Self-Induced Frustration:** If one of the parties causes the frustrating event, such as by breaching the contract or failing to take reasonable steps to prevent the event, the doctrine of frustration will not apply.

**3. Contract Terms:** The terms of the contract may specifically address what happens in the event of frustration. If so, the contract will be interpreted according to those terms.

**4. Partial Performance:** If the contract can be partially performed despite the frustrating event, the doctrine of frustration may not apply, and the parties may be required to fulfill their remaining obligations.

**5. Impracticability vs. Frustration:** The doctrine of frustration applies only when performance of the contract is objectively impossible. If performance is merely impracticable, the parties may be required to perform as best they can, and any resulting losses or damages may be apportioned accordingly.

In summary, the doctrine of frustration provides an important safety valve in cases where the performance of a contract becomes impossible due to unforeseeable events. However, its application is subject to limitations, and the specific circumstances of each case will determine whether the doctrine applies.

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