**Questions & Answers: President of the High Court, Judge Mary Irvine**

1. There are 40 judges sitting on the High Court. True/False.

**[True]**

1. There are 8 judges dealing with Criminal matters and 32 judges dealing with Civil matters. True/False.

**[True]**

1. The High Court that deals with criminal cases is called the Central Appeal Court. True/False.

**[False – It is called the Central Criminal Court]**

1. The High Court hears appeal from the Circuit Court. True/False.

**[True]**

1. The Central Criminal Court deals with the most serious criminal cases such as rape, aggravated sexual assault, murder, attempted murder and genocide. True/False.

**[True]**

1. Criminal cases in the Central Criminal Court are tried by a judge alone. True/False.

**[False – they are tried by a judge and 12 person jury]**

1. The Court of Appeal deals with appeals against convictions and appeals against sentences. True/False.

**[True]**

1. A personal injury claim can be commenced in the High Court if the damages claimed are more than €75,000. True/False.

**[False – the damages claimed for an injury only need to be €60,000]**

1. You can commence a claim in the Court of Appeal. True/False.

**[False – the High Court is the highest court where a claim can be commenced].**

1. The types of civil cases heard in the High Court include: challenges to the constitutionality of any legislation, asylum cases, large commercial disputes, the approval of sanctions imposed by professional bodies. True/False.

**[True]**

1. There is a right to appeal to the Court of Appeal and a very limited right to appeal from the Supreme Court from decisions of the High Court. True/False.

**[True]**

1. The High Court sits in Dublin alone. True/False.

**[False – the High Court sits in Cork and Galway four times a year, in Limerick three times a year, in Waterford, Sligo and Dundalk twice a year and in Kilkenny and Ennis once a year]**

1. In Ireland you have to be a solicitor or a barrister before you can become a judge. True/False.

**[True]**

**Questions & Answers: Legal aid**

1. Legal aid is intended to assist rich people. True/False.

**False**

1. The lead barrister in the Josie Airey case was:
   1. **Mary Robinson**
   2. Mary McAleese
   3. Michael D. Higgins
2. Civil Legal Aid was introduced in Ireland in:
   1. 1806
   2. 1905
   3. **1995**

**Question & Answer: Let’s look at mediation**

1. You can mediate online. True or false?

**True**

1. A mediator is a judge.

False

1. Mediation is voluntary.

**True**

1. What is mediation?
   1. The same as a court case
   2. **Mediation is a form of dispute or conflict resolution**.
2. People have to give evidence in mediation. True or False

**False**

1. Mediation is private. True or False.

**True**

1. Only lawyers can be mediators?

**False**

1. Who decides the agreement in a mediation?
   1. The mediator
   2. **The people**
2. Mediation is the same as therapy or counselling
   1. **True**
   2. **False**
3. Mediation is suitable for:
   1. Criminal cases
   2. **Family law cases**

**Questions & Answers: Children’s Rights**

1. Ireland is reviewed by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child to ensure that it is respecting the rights of children and young people under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. True/False

**True**

1. Children do not have any constitutional rights in Ireland. True/False

**False**

1. The children’s rights amendment was added to the Irish Constitution in 2015. True/False

**True**

1. In the resolution of all disputes concerning the guardianship, adoption, custody, care or upbringing of a child, the welfare and best interests of the child shall be the first and paramount consideration. True/False

**True**

**VAS questions:**

1. **When was the VAS commenced:**

2005

2003

**2004**

1. **Pro bono means that barristers have no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of being paid.**
2. **Expectation**
3. **The range of legal services provided by The Bar of Ireland in respect of pro bono work includes which of the following (tick all that apply)**

**Legal representation**

**Legal opinions**

The temporary wage scheme

**Legislative drafting**

**Speaking for ourselves event**

1. **In 2017/2018, how many legal matters was the VAS involved in?**

79

**49**

89

**Questions & Answers: Civil Liberties**

1) The European Convention on Human Rights was created by the European Union. True/False

**False -** **The European Convention on Human Rights was drafted by the Council of Europe in 1950. There are 47 Member States. This includes all the EU Countries but also includes a number**

2) How many countries have signed up to the ECHR?

1. 28
2. 17
3. 35
4. **47**

3) Human Rights have been suspended due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. True/False

**False - Although there may have been some restrictions on our rights, we continue to possess our Human Rights despite the ongoing pandemic. The government must take into account human rights when making any decisions about regulations and restrictions and must only interfere with them in a way that is proportionate and necessary.**

4) Human Rights in Ireland apply only to Irish citizens. True/False

**False - Human Rights are universal and belong to everyone. They apply regardless of where you are from, what you believe or how you choose to live your life.**

Questions and Answers for Specialised Bar Associations

**IACBA**

1. What three things does IACBA stand for?

* **Immigration, Asylum and Citizenship**

2. How did Mr. Damache become an Irish citizen?

* **By marrying an Irish woman/naturalisation**

3. Why was Mr. Damache extradited to the US?

* **He was part of a terrorist organisation**

4. True or False: The Minister for Justice was successful in revoking Mr. Damache’s Irish citizenship?

* **False**

**Family Law Association**

1. Name two different types of family law case that Lindsay mentioned?

* **Any 2: Divorce, separation, problems with childcare, custody and access issues, financial issues, who stays in the family home, who pays the mortgage, maintenance and pensions.**

2. True /False: Members of the public can go and watch a family law case?

* **False**

3. Do barristers wear gowns in the family courts?

* **No**

4. Is surrogacy legislated for in Ireland?

* **No**

5. What does Lyndsey say will impact family law going forward?

* **Science and how it evolves**

**EUBA**

1. Name one area of law that David mentions EU law impacting?

* **Criminal Law, Environmental Law, Immigration Law and Family Law**

2. If there is a conflict between Irish law and EU law, which will prevail?

* **EU law**

3. True or False: You can travel to, work in, live in, study in and retire in any other EU member state?

* **True**

4. True or False: When Ireland joined the EU it was illegal to pay men and women different rates of pay for the same work done?

* **False**

5. What does The European Lawyers in Lesbos project do?

* **Assist migrants travelling to the EU who are seeking asylum**

**Sports Law Association**

1. Name one thing Michael says Sports Law covers?

* **Employment contracts, transfer contracts, image rights of the players, the disciplinary codes, initial set up of governing bodies, rules and regulations and articles of association**

2. True or False: Lawyers argue for the player as well as the sporting body?

* **True**

3. What is e-sports?

* **Competitive Computer Gaming**

4. What is the main work done in Ireland in terms of sports law?

* **Disciplinary codes**

5. What two big issues do the other panellists ask Michael questions about?

* **Concussions and doping**

Climate Bar:

1. The Climate Bar is involved in some pro bono work and Cliona gives an example of some work they did which resulted in drafting what?

**Draft legislation before the Dail**

New rules of conduct

1. Who are they working with to create a model environmental bar?

Barristers and university professors

Solicitors and university lecturers

**Barristers and university interns**