

OLABISI ONABANJO UNIVERSITY, AGO-IWOYE  
CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

FACULTY OF LAW

DIPLOMA IN LAW

2012/2013 HARMATTAN SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DIL 101 - NIGERIAN LEGAL SYSTEM

DURATION: 2 1/2 HOURS

ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

1. Explain what constitutes a legal system and describe the notable features of Nigeria's legal system.

2. (a) Legislation is a vital instrument of social engineering and nation building specially suited to the abrogation and reform of existing laws, the provision of anticipatory remedies and the making of contingency provisions to cope with future developments.

In view of the above statement, explain what you understand by 'Nigerian legislation'.

(b). Describe the components of legislation.

3 (a). What is customary law?

(b) A rule of customary law must be shown to be in existence before it can be applied by a court of law. With the aid of decided cases and relevant legislation, examine the ways of establishing the existence of customary law.

4. (a) Why is there a need for rules of statutory interpretation in a legal system?

(b) Discuss the various rules of statutory interpretation with the aid of relevant judicial authorities.

5. "In the hierarchy of the courts in this Country, as in all other free common law countries, one thing is clear, however learned a lower court considers itself to be and however contemptuous of the higher court, that lower court is still bound by the decisions of a higher court".  
-Per Eso, JSC in *Okonji v. Dr. Mudiaga & Ors* [1985] 10 S. C. 267 at 268-269.

Discuss the above dictum.

6. Briefly explain the nature of law and discuss the major classifications of law.

new v nbi  
Agba v Ogburn

palmer v