

50 & help me !!!
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CENTER FOR SANDWICH PROGRAMMES

FACULTY OF LAW

DIPLOMA IN LAW

2011/2012 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) With copious references to contemporary law reports and periodicals in your law library, explain the importance of a good law library to legal practitioners and law students in Nigeria.
(b) What do you understand by the *Ejusdem Generis* rule?
3. With the aid of decided cases, state the position of the law with regards to the following scenarios:
 - a) Governor Johnson has sued Gist Newspaper for a publication which he considers defamatory to him. Gist newspaper has however maintained that by virtue of the immunity clause in section 308 of the 1999 Constitution of Nigeria, Governor Johnson can neither sue or be sued for as long as he remains governor.
 - b) When Tintin was 16 years old, he killed his neighbour with a knife and he was charged to court for murder. There was a long delay in Tintin's trial and by the time the trial ended, Tintin was already 20 years old. The judge has decided to sentence Tintin to death on the consideration that Tintin's age at the time of sentence is the relevant age, not the age at which he committed the offence.
4. Due largely to Nigeria's historical link with Great Britain, English law has become a major source of Nigerian law. Conscious efforts have been made to incorporate English laws into Nigeria either by imperial force or by local legislation. Discuss.
5. Briefly explain the nature of law and discuss the major classifications of law.
6. 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, discuss the ways of establishing the existence of customary law.