



**CILEX Level 6 Single Subject Certificate/CILEX Level 6 Professional Higher
Diploma in Law and Practice/CILEX Level 6 Graduate Fast-Track Diploma**

Unit 20 – The Practice of Family Law

Case study materials

November 2026

Information for candidates

- You should familiarise yourself with these case study materials before the examination, taking time to consider the themes raised in the materials.
- You should consider the way in which your knowledge and understanding relate to these materials.
- In the examination, you will be presented with a set of questions which will relate to these materials.
- You may discuss these materials with your tutor(s).

Instructions and information to candidates during the examination

- You are allowed to take your own clean/unannotated copy of this document into the examination. Alternatively, you can access the electronic version of this document in the examination.
- You are allowed to take your own unmarked copy of the following designated statute book into the examination – ***Blackstone's Statutes on Family Law, 31st edition, Rob George, Oxford University Press, 2023***
- You must comply with the CILEX Exam Regulations – Online Exams at Accredited Centres/CILEX Exam Regulations – Online Exams with Remote Invigilation.

Turn over

ADVANCE INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You are a trainee lawyer employed by the firm Kempstons LLP of The Manor House, Bedford MK42 7AB. The firm's telephone number is (01234) 622964. The email address is admin@kempstons.co.uk and DX address Bedford 3721.

The firm is a high-street practice and one-third of the firm's caseload consists of family work. The family team at Kempstons LLP is headed up by the family partner, Nargis Bhatia. The local family court is in Bedford.

You arrive at work to find the following documents on your desk, together with a memo from Nargis Bhatia providing you with instructions.

DOCUMENT 1: Memorandum from Nargis Bhatia

DOCUMENT 2: Attendance note re Farida Gupta

DOCUMENT 3: Email from Chana Fentiman

DOCUMENT 4: Financial assets information form for Chana Fentiman

DOCUMENT 5: Attendance note re John and Paula Taylor

DOCUMENT 6: Attendance note re Kaitlyn Simmons

DOCUMENT 1

MEMORANDUM FROM NARGIS BHATIA

To: Trainee Lawyer

From: Nargis Bhatia

Date: {Today's date}

Re: Matters requiring attention

As previously discussed, I will be out of the office for the next week attending a conference. I would be grateful if you could deal with the following matters during my absence.

1. Farida Gupta file

Mrs Gupta is a new client who attended at the office yesterday afternoon. I attach a copy of my attendance note of this meeting (**Document 2**). This matter needs to be progressed with some urgency during my absence.

2. Chana Fentiman file

Mrs Fentiman is an existing client who is in the process of divorcing her husband, Yosef Fentiman. I attach a copy of an email, with attachment, received yesterday (**Documents 3 and 4**). This matter needs to be progressed with some urgency during my absence.

3. John and Paula Taylor file

Mr and Mrs Taylor are new clients. I attach a copy of my attendance note (**Document 5**). Please progress this matter during my absence.

4 Kaitlyn Simmons file

Ms Simmons is a new client. I attach a copy of my attendance note (**Document 6**). Please progress this matter as a matter of urgency during my absence.

DOCUMENT 2

ATTENDANCE NOTE RE FARIDA GUPTA

Client: Farida Gupta
Date: {Yesterday's date}
Fee earner: Nargis Bhatia
File Ref: NB/131126/MAT/YS
Time taken: 1 hour

Attendance on Mrs Farida Gupta, who is a new client. The relevant identity and conflict checks have been completed. No conflicts have been identified.

The client details are:

Full name: Farida Gupta
D.O.B. 17 February 1986
Address: 6 Victoria Terrace, Market Street, Bedford, MK11 1ZZ
Contact: 07770089344 (Mob)
Occupation: Small business owner – grocery shop

Mrs Gupta attended to discuss the breakdown of her marriage to Ranveer Gupta. They were married on 16 September 2014 and have two children: Ajay is eight years old and Lakshmi is six years old.

Mrs Gupta owns a grocery shop in Bedford, which she inherited from her parents. When she married Mr Gupta she agreed to that he would manage the shop and she would work alongside him.

Following her marriage, Mrs Gupta experienced health problems, making it difficult for her to have a successful pregnancy. After several miscarriages, Mrs Gupta and her husband were very happy when Ajay was born. Mr Gupta suggested that his wife should devote her time caring for "their precious son", leaving the shop totally in his hands. Mrs Gupta was happy to agree. When Lakshmi was born two years later, their family was complete. Mrs Gupta was able to give all her attention to the children. She left Mr Gupta to manage their financial affairs and to make provision for the future.

With his wife no longer working in the shop, Mr Gupta had to employ staff. He had appointed a succession of staff over the years, always choosing women rather than men. When his wife questioned this, he explained that he felt female employees were better employees as they were more flexible and were able to multi-task. Mrs Gupta had growing suspicions that Mr Gupta's preference for female staff was for other reasons but kept her concerns to herself.

In April this year, Mrs Gupta took her children to India for a family wedding. Before leaving, she updated her Will. Her husband is named as the sole executor and the main beneficiary.

Mrs Gupta planned to get a taxi from the airport when she returned from India as flights from India were being delayed due to poor weather. However, her flight arrived as scheduled. When Mrs Gupta arrived home, she found Mr Gupta in a compromising position with Sara, his newest member of staff.

Mrs Gupta told Mr Gupta to leave the house immediately and barred him from entering the shop. She has taken back the role of managing the shop. She has now discovered that her husband has not been managing their money as they had agreed. For some time, he has been diverting a significant amount of the profits into an account in his sole name and he has been paying into a pension in his name only, although it had been agreed that he should set up pensions for them both.

Mrs Gupta has decided that she can no longer trust her husband. She wishes to end their marriage.

DOCUMENT 3

EMAIL FROM CHANA FENTIMAN

To: Nargis Bhatia
From: Chana Fentiman
Date: {Yesterday's date}
Subject: Concerns re financial matters

Dear Ms Bhatia

Thank you for confirming that the divorce application has been submitted.

I would like to move on as soon as possible in sorting out how the divorce will impact on me financially. I am attaching the form that you asked me to complete, with as much detail as I have. I expect it would be a good idea for me to start work on ensuring I have accurate information and the documents to back this up.

We have been able to enjoy a comfortable way of life due to Yosef's earnings. We have enjoyed annual holidays abroad and a range of leisure activities. and I was lucky that there was no pressure on me to work after the children, Benjamin (aged 14 years) and Miriam (aged 12 years) were born.

I am currently living at 2 Oxford Road, which is a five-bedroom property. My husband is renting a one-bedroom apartment.

I am particularly concerned to work out whether I will be able to stay at 2 Oxford Road with the children or whether it will have to be sold as Yosef wishes. He has suggested that we also sell 5 Cox Close, a two-bedroom property which we rent out to tenants, so that we have sufficient funds to buy each of us a new home and then split the remaining assets. But I am not sure.

I would appreciate some advice on how best to proceed in dealing with the division of our assets.

DOCUMENT 4

FINANCIAL ASSETS INFORMATION FOR MRS CHANA FENTIMAN

PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Client details	Chana Fentiman	Date of birth	12 April 1988
Spouse details	Yosef Fentiman	Date of birth	17 August 1986
Child 1 (under 18)	Benjamin Fentiman	Date of birth	21 July 2012
Child 2 (under 18)	Miriam Fentiman	Date of birth	8 October 2013
Child 3 (under 18)	None	Date of birth	
Child 4 (under 18)	None	Date of birth	
Date of marriage	30 June 2006		
ASSET CATEGORY	ASSET DETAIL AND VALUE		ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Family home	2 Oxford Road, Kempston MKZZ 1YY Current value: £750,000 Mortgage £150,000 Owned in joint names by Mr and Mrs Fentiman as beneficial joint tenants.		
Other	5 Cox Close, Kempston, MKZZ 1YZ Current value: £365,000 Mortgage (buy to let) £65,000 Owned in joint names by Mr and Mrs Fentiman as beneficial joint tenants.		
Household goods	£60,000		
Vehicles	Vehicle 1 – Nissan Qashqai – £25,000 Vehicle 2 – Nissan Juke – £15,000		
Employment	Mr Fentiman – employed – engineer Current earnings £95,000 plus annual bonuses of £30,000 Mrs Fentiman – employed, part time – nurse £25,000		Mrs Fentiman started working again last year. She plans to increase her working hours.
Current accounts	Magpie Bank plc (joint)		Currently used for day-to-day living. The earnings of both Mr and Mrs Fentiman are credited to this account.
Savings and investment accounts	Joint – £65,000 Mr Fentiman – £85,000 Mrs Fentiman – £30,000		
Pensions	Mr Fentiman: CE £375,000 Mrs Fentiman: CE £80,000		
Other assets	None		

DOCUMENT 5

ATTENDANCE NOTE RE JOHN AND PAULA TAYLOR

Client: John and Paula Taylor
Date: {Yesterday's date}
Fee earner: Nargis Bhatia
File Ref: NB/171126/CH/YS
Time taken: 1 hour

Attendance on Mr and Mrs Taylor, who are new clients. The relevant identity and conflict checks have been completed. No conflicts have been identified.

The client details are:

Full name: John and Paula Taylor
D.O.B. 15 February 1955 (John Taylor); 21 September 1957 (Paula Taylor)
Address: Bell House, Fore Street, Kempston, MK11 1ZZ
Contact: 07867908979 (Mob)
Occupation: Retired

Mr and Mrs Taylor attended to discuss concerns regarding their relationship with their granddaughter, Isabel Taylor, the daughter of their son Thomas and his wife Holly. Isabel was born on 5 January 2022.

Thomas and Holly have for many years been living and working in London. Holly is the Chief Operations Officer of a national media company. Thomas has had a range of jobs. However, five years ago, Mr Taylor suggested that Thomas work with him with a view to eventually taking over the management of Mr Taylor's business, a development company specialising in small luxury developments. The firm is based in Kempston. This proposal, and concerns that Thomas had about his parents' health, led Thomas into persuading Holly to move out of London to Kempston.

The move also enabled Thomas, with help from his parents, to be the key carer for Isabel when she was born and this allowed Holly to continue with her career. Thomas was an only child and Isabel is their only grandchild, and Mr and Mrs Taylor, who doted on Isabel, were happy to help. They looked after Isabel regularly while Thomas was working, taking her to and collecting her from activities and parties.

However, the move to Kempston was not a success for Holly. She missed her city life and found the commuting a challenge. She was very successful in her career but she found building a relationship with Thomas's father very difficult, as he had an old-fashioned view of life and the role of a wife. In particular, he did not approve of mothers of young children working.

Gradually, these challenges impacted on Holly's relationship with Thomas. In January, she told him that she was planning to move back to London with Isabel. She had arranged to buy a flat there and to employ an au pair to care for Isabel. Holly has enrolled Isabel at a private nursery.

Thomas did his best to dissuade her but with no success. Holly and Isabel moved back to London in March and from that time Mr and Mrs Taylor have seen very little of Isabel. Then, in May 2026, Thomas was involved in a serious road traffic accident, which he did not survive.

Since May, Mr and Mrs Taylor have been trying to make contact with Holly to arrange some regular visits to see Isabel but Holly is refusing to talk to them.

DOCUMENT 6

ATTENDANCE NOTE RE KAITLYN SIMMONS

Client: Kaitlyn Simmons
Date: {Yesterday's date}
Fee earner: Nargis Bhatia
File Ref: NB/181126/DA/YS
Time taken: 1 hour

Attendance on Kaitlyn Simmons, who is a new client. The relevant identity and conflict checks have been completed. No conflicts have been identified.

The client details are:

Full name: Kaitlyn Simmons
D.O.B. 28 October 1993
Address: 28 Market Street, Bedford, MK11 1ZZ
Contact: 07717243789 (Mob)
Occupation: Recruitment Manager

Ms Simmons attended to discuss her relationship with Quinten Nichols.

Ms Simmons was introduced to Mr Nichols by mutual friends. She had recently broken up with her previous partner and was not looking for a new relationship at the time; however, she found Mr Nichols easy to talk to and he appeared to be a charming person. He introduced himself as the Honourable Dominic Nichols, the son of an earl, who had grown up in an aristocratic family.

Ms Simmons agreed to meet Mr Nichols again and over the next few weeks their relationship deepened. Mr Nichols was able to make her laugh and to enjoy life again. Two months after meeting Ms Simmons, Mr Nichols told her that he had just been made redundant and had also been given notice to quit his flat. He said he had no money and nowhere to live. Ms Simmons invited him to move in with her.

At first, the arrangement seemed to work. Mr Nichols helped in the house with cleaning and cooking in lieu of rent; however, his character gradually changed and Ms Simmons saw a different side to him. He started to help less in the house, telling Ms Simmons he "wasn't prepared to be an unpaid skivvy".

He also began to criticise the clothes she wore, what she said and how she behaved. He told her that she needed to listen to him, as with his background he knew best. Initially, Ms Simmons put the change in character down to the impact of being unemployed but when the criticism continued, she started to challenge Mr Nichols. However, challenges made him angry. He would shout at her "Who do you think you are? You can't talk to me like that. I'm only trying to help someone who knows nothing" or similar.

Then he started to belittle her in front of friends. Ms Simmons soon realised that her friends were starting to avoid her. A close friend told her that it was not her they were avoiding, it was Mr Nichols. The friend advised her to end the relationship. Ms Simmons decided that she would try, even though she was scared as to how Mr Nichols would react.

When she told Mr Nichols that the relationship was over and that he needed to find somewhere else to live, he exploded into a violent rage and slapped her hard several times on her face. He yelled that he was only trying to help her better herself and she was just an ungrateful bitch. Mr Nichols calmed

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down and apologised saying he really loved her and could they start again. Ms Simmons, who had become worn down by the constant rages and the physical assaults, agreed and decided that she would try to do what Mr Nichols instructed and would not challenge him but Mr Nichols' behaviour did not improve. The rages continued to occur, followed by apologies.

Yesterday evening, Ms Simmons was due to attend an awards ceremony with a colleague. She had asked Mr Nichols to accompany them. He contacted her to say he would be a bit late home. Ms Simmons decided to get herself ready. When Mr Nichols arrived home, he flew into a terrible rage. He yelled that she had 'chosen the wrong dress and put on too much makeup'. He said that she 'looked like a tart' and he would 'show her how he treated tarts'. He then proceeded to launch a serious physical assault on her. Luckily, her colleague arrived and heard her screaming, and called the police.

The police arrived and arranged for Ms Simmons to be taken to hospital and contacted her family. The police arrested Mr Nichols and have told Ms Simmons that he is known to them and he is not from an aristocratic family as he claimed but from an ordinary local family with criminal links.

Ms Simmons now realises that Mr Nichols was just using her and that she needs to end the relationship but she is very concerned about whether Mr Nichols will accept this and how he might react.

End of the case study materials